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How Much Do Imponderables Weigh?*

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Some day we may actually receive that eagerly anticipated visitor from Mars thru whose extra-terrestrial eyes we are constantly endeavoring to get an open-minded view point of various phases of our perplexing modern civilization. In which case I should like to register my prophecy as to one of the things which will strike his unbiased eye as most worthy of wondering comment.

He will look around our world and note how little towns grow into large towns and large towns become cities and cities increase by leaps and bounds to create that combination of horror and beauty, of civilization and savagery, a leading metropolis. He will see free functioning town meetings growing into city administrations, and gradually distending into national caucuses and party organizations, from which springs that jungle of plots and purposes which we call politics. He will see private enterprise, invention and discovery, tossed into an immense duplicating machine; standardized products creating corporations to manage them, and pools and trusts and monopolies to darken the social heavens with their efficiency problems. He will see the little red school house growing into a graded school and thence into a city system with organization desperately trying to free the clogged educational machine for the hordes who are waiting to enter.

Everywhere the phenomenon of growth (which is natural) turning into the problem of monstrous growth (which is deformity). Things taking on complex and even sinister aspects merely by reason of their size. Seeing all this our Martian will say to himself "The root of all evil is surely quantity and size."

But as he observes still further he sees that instead of curbing the inherent tendency to grow or even letting growth come naturally and healthily, the major energies of mankind are directed toward stimulating by every possible device this expansive quality even by means of artificial inflation. He sees all the Babbitts boosting for the "biggest city", the largest building, the highest tower, the greatest registration of students per building, the largest graduating class, the biggest payroll. He sees the whole world as with one impulse reaching out for size and numbers as a criterion of success and accomplishment. If he is an honest Martian he will say, "Surely you are a mad race. All the world creaks and groans with the strain of ill-adjusted and unconsidered masses and quantities. Your whole civilization has just recently been split asunder over a problem of expansion and maladjustment of numbers and yet it is not the settlement of these questions for which men strive so much as for the very source of all your evils—size and quantity."

The library profession has hitherto made a virtue of its necessities and in

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good inferiority-complex style has "compensated" for its undeniable lack of quantity and size and all the cruder powers by dignified proclamations of quality and essential virtues. Of late, however, the stirrings of growth have troubled our innocuous aloofness and we begin to be animated by the spirit of progress. Controversial terms such as standardization, efficiency, business return on the taxpayer's investment, volume of output, are raising a dust of practical business administration, which in its settling may cover our bright little individuality with the common grey pall. I am not of those who would decry progress and I am willing to believe that its coming must inevitably stir the dust of tradition and ignoble habituation, but foreseeing that result I believe that the part of wisdom is to have a dust cloak ready for the storm, under which we may preserve intact our glories. It is of the storm, the dust cloak and the glories that I would speak briefly. And I shall begin with a very dogmatic statement.

All the evils of growth come in the last analysis from ignoring or giving a wrong answer to the question, "How much do imponderables weigh?" Let me sketch in the rough the history of "progress". An institution or group begins to grow; increasing size and numbers necessitate organization for efficient service; standardization of product and personnel facilitates administration; rules and regulations begin to intrude between the administrative body and the staff and public; contacts become increasingly long distance relations and impersonal procedure succeeds to the human adjustments possible among members of a small group; all this organization makes for difficulty in getting the other person's point of view, opening the way for misunderstandings, irritation, loss of unity of action or esprit de corps; and we arrive at the paradoxical situation of efficiency destroying personal service, which brings us around the full circle to the dismaying discovery that efficiency has failed to effect—service has

been lost in organization—the imponderables have outweighed the machine.

This, then, is the storm and stress which librarianship may reasonably expect to pass thru as an incident of its growth and increasing magnitude. These same phases have accompanied the development of every other department of social activity—business, government, education—so how can we hope to be exempted? Only with so many experiments to enlighten us, why should we find it necessary to repeat some of the most disastrous ones?

The most foolish of all seems to me the neglect of the "imponderables". An imponderable is an "agency or thing without weight." But paradoxically we seem to be rediscovering that imponderables outweigh anything else in life. They are not to be weighed in material scales perhaps, just because we have no scales capable of registering such mighty weight; just as certain sounds are inaudible to our ears only because our auditory apparatus is too limited to register them.

We pretty generally recognize morale as being the most potent factor in waging a successful modern war, do we not? And yet we concentrate on naval programs and aerial programs and poison gas programs, and leave political prisoners from our last war in jail, to destroy morale in thinking and feeling men and women, the country over. Confidence in governmental honesty and justice are imponderables, but for America's future they far outweigh battleships and bombing planes. What turned the annihilation at Thermopylae into a world conquest? What but the spirit of self-sacrifice and devoted loyalty. So today that little band of Spartan heroes counts for infinitely more than all the successful organized Persian horde. What spread the Christian religion over all the Western hemisphere, from its obscure and insignificant beginnings? Devotion to an ideal utterly without ponderable attributes. The imponderables in librarianship that have made our profession the public service institu-

tion which today it is, are familiar enough to all of us. Certainly one of the greatest has been the spirit of service which we may perhaps claim as characteristic of those activities developed largely by women. *Esprit de corps* and a personnel rather superior to the average working type have been concomitants of this spirit. We may add loyalty built upon the solid foundation of mutual understanding and similarity of ideals; financial impotence concurred in because of the ardent concentration on the work rather than the reward; a kind of annihilatory self-sacrifice which offers all one's goods to be consumed upon the dedicated altar of human need before which all genuine educators and social workers immolate themselves. There are others which you can fill in *ad libitum*. But here are enough from which to point my moral. These imponderables have been the backbone of our library service. They are the elements most subject to decay in an atmosphere exclusively of organization and efficient standardization. Organization and standardization are upon us—necessarily, if we will grow. It behooves us then to take stock of how much these imponderables actually do weigh with us and how we may protect them through our storm period of growth.

There are two or three safety-lines of principle to which it might be helpful for us all to cling when the cold winds of efficiency beat too violently upon us.

1. It is possible for professional service to be too business-like.

I stood in a long cue before a ticket window recently, patiently worming my way forward to secure a seat for a Chaliapin concert. At last I reached the window, asked where seats of a certain price were and had shoved toward me two pieces of pasteboard while the wooden face within the wicket impelled the next aspirant forward to tread on my heels and an automatic hand reached for my money. They were poor seats and I didn't want

them but the hypnotic impassivity of the wicket-god almost blotted me from before the window. However, with a terrific concentration of will, I broke the power of the suggestion that I pass on and demanded what seats of another price there were. Imperturbably and still conversing with the next-in-line, the ticket dispenser gathered in the undesirable pasteboards and pushed out two more, intoning some unintelligible formula which I suppose must have been an indication of the location of my seats. Utterly cowed and with a sense of having by my minute of hesitation, clogged the wheels of a perfect mechanism, I crept away with my tickets. I am sure that man was a most efficient ticket-seller; the line certainly moved expeditiously, everybody got a ticket even if it did cost twice as much as he wanted to pay. The expensive seats were sold first because only a brave soul would venture to challenge what was offered. It was efficient but *I didn't get service*. I know I should have secured my seats beforehand; I know the problem of the man at the window is to get the last-minute buyers in before the concert begins—but if there had been another concert by this artist at another place I should have gone away without a ticket. There wasn't and hence from an efficiency and business standpoint I suppose the disaffection which went with my ticket was perhaps negligible.

Here is our first imponderable—good-will and a sense of satisfaction in the transaction. Progressive business men of course recognize the existence of this factor—and perhaps they feel that they have succeeded in bringing this imponderable out of the void down into their efficiency machine. But their attitude is so often that of the practical religionist who believes that religion is good business but when the business is sure anyway, why not save religion for a more pressing need!

2. Professional ethics often apparently conflicts with business efficiency and economy.

Here is where a genuine test of soul comes. The main chance so frequently is not the humane chance. Where does the line of obligation run between what is due the institution and what is due the human beings functioning in the institution? It is easy enough to draw in theory but it proves a tricky demarcation in practice; and if the administration is known to follow the perfectly understandable tendency to lean toward the good of the institution, a balance will inevitably be struck by employes who lean toward the human advantage.

All welfare and developmental work done for the staff aside from the obvious provision of decent working conditions must meet the challenge of economy of administration. The fact that even decent working conditions are sometimes violated in the enthusiasm for service is indicated in the following note from PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Inconsistencies

"May I tell in PUBLIC LIBRARIES what I saw illustrated the other day?

The librarian usually belongs to the Civic league.

She is eager to find material for the club woman who is writing a paper on the overworked shop girl. She is enthusiastic in her support of the cause of the girl in the factory. All of which is well and good. BUT, she will make her own assistants stand at a loan desk a whole afternoon when she might just as well provide a stool for them—she keeps her assistants at the loan desk for a stretch of hours that the average shop girl does not know.

Some day industrial commissions are going to investigate these things. What gross violations of the labor laws—and of common humanity will the commission find in—what librarian?

TRAVELER."

It will take a great deal of civic service to offset in the mind of that traveler the unfortunate impression of professional library ethics conveyed by that inconsistently zealous librarian—Savorless salt!

There is another difficult moment when professional ethics conflicts with the good stroke of business, that is when the opportunity comes to free your institution from an inefficient member by assisting her to a position elsewhere. No one would be so stupid as to deny that misfits in one institution have proven treasures in some other place. Professional ethics allows, indeed demands, the admission of every reasonable doubt as to finality of adverse judgment. Professional ethics demands that the institution take its full share of the responsibility for maladjustment of the working personnel. But there remain certain definite things that must be said frankly and honestly concerning the work of an unsatisfactory member of any staff, to any other institution inquiring about her. I think this is one of the weakest places in our code of professional ethics. We rationalize it on various noble grounds—a desire to give the girl every chance—unwillingness to prejudice her possible future employers, distrust the value of our judgments, etc. But after all, these beautiful sounding, humanitarian sentiments usually, I am afraid, have their roots in lack of courage, and lack of sympathy. It takes courage to tell an assistant frankly just what you think of her, and of course no adverse report involving criticism of which she is unaware, should go out about any assistant. It takes genuine sympathy to understand the situation from her point of view and thereby arrive at a just appraisal of her qualities, good and bad; and real imaginative sympathy to visualize with adequate justice her potentialities under other conditions and in other circumstances. Goodness knows it is easier just to trust to luck and get her off our hands! Most library executives have I believe, a mental list of suspect institutions whose recommendations are largely sprinkled with salt before being taken, and the most pernicious result of this unethical conduct of a few is the unjustified suspicion cast over honest

recommendations. Here comes another imponderable to be weighed and evaluated—confidence and trust. The profession can't get on without them and yet they are so difficult to weigh and to account for on the payroll or the statistics sheets.

3. *Esprit de corps* is the most valuable element of any organization and it does and should cost a great deal to maintain it. I have recently been reading an article by Edward H. Reede, entitled "Is there a woman-mind?" and I was greatly struck by its applicability to this very problem of imponderables and the library profession. Library work has been and still is largely performed by women. Therefore we might expect to find the psychology of library work and the *esprit de corps* therein engendered conspicuously feminine. Mr Reede notes in his article that from earliest childhood the girl is taught "to please", to seek approval as the goal of her labors, while the boy early accepts the paternal goal of property—acquisition and the gaining of prosperity. "To win good-will" becomes the supreme goal of her feelings. It becomes a kind of property . . . Good-will (to the boy) serves but as the opportunity to trade the other fellow something that he doesn't want to one's own advancement." We have thereby created in the boy a "feeling" mind which compels him to pursue prosperity and possessions as his symbol of success. Approval is all very well but it is not a substitute for the pay envelope. The girl, on the contrary, with her "feeling" mind trained to regard approval as her symbol of success relegates the pay-envelope to a secondary place. To quote again " . . . so much more valuable is approval to a woman than her pay check that when she gains approval it handicaps. The possession of approval generates the grateful feeling known as loyalty. Loyalty is a motive for further work. The loyalty of a woman to her employer places her in the position of unconsciously expending energy which is unpaid for. Which

is not only an economic waste, (I am still quoting) but uses energy which should be conserved for actual goal-efforts . . . This loyalty-motive lays the woman-worker open to easy exploitation. Every form of energy in pursuit of a goal should be convertible into tangible symbols of the goal. If loyalty is valuable, it should be paid for".

I have quoted from Mr Reede's article at such length not only because it seems to me to throw an interesting light on the present status of man's and woman's attitudes toward their work, but also to call attention to his further statement that these divergent attitudes are purely the result of training and not at all inherent. Now if woman, emerging into this man's world of business, industry and the professions, finds prevalent the masculine "feeling" mind which symbolizes success and achievement by acquisition and the pay-envelope, what will be her reaction? Will she continue to train her "feeling" mind to seek approval or will she train for the pay-envelope? If she conforms to prevailing standards, will that imponderable, woman's loyalty, without which fewer men would have achieved their success goal, disappear from business and professional life? If she does not, will she deserve anything except—continued exploitation? Librarianship being, as I said, so preponderately a woman's profession is fundamentally concerned with weighing this imponderable, loyalty, and providing for its encouragement if it seems of value.

Esprit de corps costs a great deal. It must be paid for as generously as possible in actual money. It grows yearly harder and harder to maintain in an underpaid staff. And now having read Mr Reede's article we realize that this is not a sign of vicious degeneration in the young but simply means that more and more young women are acquiring the "feeling" mind of men. Of course, if you want to maintain that men are more degenerate than women—!!

Almost more detrimental to esprit de corps than underpayment is the suspicion of an erratically discriminatory salary schedule. Note the qualification "erratically". Discrimination for good and sufficient reasons will, I believe, appeal as just to everyone. Unquestionably some workers return to the institution more valuable service than do others. Failure to recognize such service in some way results inevitably in discouragement after a time. At which point economy in money becomes extravagance in imponderables. The discrimination between men and women, owing chiefly to the infrequency of the men, does not work so perniciously here as in most other salary conditions. But it *does* work. Of course there are "agitators" and "reds" who are not altogether appeased by the solution of securing to men the higher salaries by pre-empting for them the bigger positions. Even some of us who aren't "reds" can see through a grindstone with a hole in it!

A more common form of discrimination, I suspect, is that between the girl who lives at home and the librarian from another town. Now let us be perfectly clear here—there may be a case for paying a local librarian less than another girl doing the same kind of work. But let's be sure what it is. They may not be doing equally good work; the girl from abroad, just because she brings another point of view may contribute something in experience and outlook for which the local girl has no equivalent; we may feel that three years each in two different institutions is worth more than six years of ingrown local experience. We should have to pause right here and weigh the value of familiarity with the locality and integration with the life of a place. I know of one librarian doing children's work on our coast, one of whose great assets is the extensive personal acquaintance she has had over a period of several years with the growing youth of the place. The young men and women of the community are bound to the library by a

personal interest. How much is the value of Miss Hewins to the Hartford library dependent on her "belonging" to the city? Or is one's "settled" value to an institution conditioned on having sown a good crop of wild oats during an educative rolling-stone minority? It's a very delicate question that—but worth every executive's pondering to a clearly defined solution. Of one thing, however, I am convinced—that no institution can maintain esprit de corps which discriminates in the salary schedules *solely* on a basis of whether an assistant is indigenous or imported. But it costs a girl who is boarding more to live than it does a girl living at home, you may object. It may or may not—what do we know of the demands on a girl's salary? Is it, really, any of our business? Anyhow if it is an act of philanthropy the discrimination is intended to perform, do at least let us not be confused as to the personality of the philanthropist. The assistant would probably prefer to make her own donation to a fellow-worker with her own money and get the credit for it.

It has never been considered ethical for librarians to express any great interest in their salaries. Askers have been snubbed and acquiescers belauded. I feel sure that most executives either joyfully or despondently, according to temperament, could say in the language of the comic strip—oh yes, you, too, do you read it!—"Them days are gone forever." It is a fact that if we want salaries to assume again a minor place in the thought of the library worker, we must see to it that they are not forced into the foreground by justifiable suspicions of discrimination. Sometimes we must perhaps even lose a perfectly legal chance to profit by an employee's ignorance. Sharp business practices are too expensive for public service organizations.

Esprit de corps also costs the administration no little amount in time and in patience. It can be maintained only at the expense of personal con-

tacts between the administration and the working force. Frequent consultations with subordinates are good investments of time and personally I have never felt that careful explanations of policy or even of the actual reasons for specific decisions or acts was necessarily a lowering of executive dignity. After all, library assistants are not "hands"—they are co-workers. The cooperative spirit is the imponderable that every enterprise is anxious to get from its workers—but it costs something in cooperation in exchange.

Speaking of cooperation, it is about time we turned to the other side of this question: what does esprit de corps cost the staff? It is a difficult matter for the administration to be sympathetic to the grievances of a lively staff; it is doubly difficult for the staff at all adequately to comprehend the problems of the executive. In the majority of cases the executive was once an assistant and she or he has only to try to remember. But the assistant has probably not yet been an executive on so large a scale, and it should curb a little the arrogance of dogmatic criticism to ponder healthily upon this ignorance. A little taste of responsibility has often an amazingly sobering effect upon the most voluminous critic. Patience and sympathy should not come entirely from the head downward; there is a very real need for these Christian graces to be extended upward. If you think things could be planned better, then come forward with a helpful suggestion as well as with a cold antagonism. Many times the thing that looks to the casual eye like a personal injustice is seen upon an attempt to arrive at a better solution to be only the injustice of a condition. If professional ethics demands that an executive show honesty and courage in dealing frankly with assistants, it is no less true that professional ethics demands from the assistants an equal courage and honesty in dealing with themselves. Will you recognize your own limitations,

can you appraise your own services as dispassionately as those of your acquaintance, and can you appreciate the kindness of the friendly critic who points out your weak points? Well probably not—we are none of us archangels! But an honest effort is part of the staff's expense account.

I have left loyalty to the last because it is one of the imponderables most talked about and therefore least understood. There is probably more Pollyanna sentimentality uttered in the name of loyalty than in that of any other imponderable except perhaps "optimism". Loyalty is not an outward thing which we can be exhorted to don as a garment. It is a matter of the inner self—a flower of our personality and an expression of our whole intellectual, spiritual and social attitudes of mind. Every adult soul has many loyalties indicating by their hierarchy, more infallibly than can college degrees and insignia of rank, the right of that soul to claim adulthood. These loyalties are called forth by great or appealing qualities in the thing or person toward which loyalty is felt. Therefore it is more or less futile to exhort a person to be loyal—it is rather as though you should exhort him to be grown-up. You may urge him to act loyally in a particular instance just as you may urge him to assume the dignity of maturity. But loyalty, to be more than an emotional reflex to an appeal or a temporary assumption of a virtue, must be an outward expression of an inner state of pride or trust or sympathy. Surely our profession touches us at one or all of these points, thereby *commanding* our loyalty. If loyalty is absent in the members of any profession there are, it seems to me, only two explanations. Either the profession or institution is incapable of appealing to the pride or trust or respect of its members, or the personnel is made up of individuals incapable of finely adult intellectual, spiritual or social attitudes of mind. We must, both as executives and as general workers, cultivate "loyalty" in

the interests of our own development as well as that of our profession.

If you have been interested to follow so far this attempt to express the thought that I have in my mind you will agree with me, I am sure, that there is nothing new here. Service, justice, courage and honesty in dealing with our fellows, loyalty, sympathy, patience—all these are old, old virtues—theoretically at least. I wonder if you will also agree with me that the most important service for any profession to render to humanity today is just this—not to devise new virtues (imponderables) but to demonstrate the possibility of maintaining the theoretical values of imponderables in the face of the practical challenges of result-demanding "progress".

One of the chief glories of the li-

brary profession is that it has furnished a stimulating example of a social service institution—democratic, fine-spirited, loyally at one in its ideal of devotion to universal upbuilding. It is permitted to the inconspicuous and the weak to possess all the virtues and to practice them. With growth and dawning influence comes the temptation to assert the virtues and practice them—with discretion. Let librarianship continue to demonstrate the possibility of serving the community and preserving its personnel, of squaring service with efficiency, professional ethics with economy, and in case of conflict, let us remember that our value as a profession lies in being able to weigh in honest scales the vital imponderables against the surface mechanisms.

Standardization*

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A common error of those who do not think clearly is hasty generalization—especially that which ascribes universal efficacy to some measure or method that has shown itself good in a particular case. Because a drug or a treatment benefits one ailment, it is recommended for others without discrimination. Apparently this error is creeping into our ideas of standardization. Standardization has commended itself in certain instances; therefore we assume that it is good in itself and of universal application. Whether this is true or in what classes of instances it is not true, can be ascertained only by an inquiry which up to the present time seems not to have been attempted. This paper is a brief and very preliminary step in that direction.

Two related, but not identical, things seem to be included in what has been called standardization—first, the selection and establishment of a few definite

kinds or types of things or methods to replace a large or indefinite number; second, the adoption of standard units or types for reference. An example of the first would be an agreement on the part of manufacturers to reduce existing styles and sizes of some article, perhaps numbering several hundred, to a very few—perhaps a dozen—with resulting saving in expense and gain in simplicity. An example of the second is the adoption of common units of length or weight. The second does not imply the first; for when we adopt the inch, the foot and the mile as standards of length, we do not mean that hereafter everything is to be either an inch, a foot or a mile long. We mean simply that lengths are to be expressed in terms of these standards.

The advantage of standards of this second kind are so obvious that they need not be dwelt upon here; but they can be used only where all things of the same kind can be easily expressed in terms of the units or described by reference to them. All things numeri-

*Paper read at the Lake Placid meeting of the American Library Institute, September 10, 1923.

cally expressible are evidently of this type, but there are some others. Where things are composed of enumerated elements, for instance, certain groups of these elements may be taken as standard, and a given other group may be defined by naming the nearest standard group and the elements that are to be added to it or taken from it. This is evidently akin to the rule for making definitions by stating "the proximate genus and the difference," given in text books on logic.

For instance, if library positions are defined by stating the groups of duties or qualifications appertaining to each, then certain groups may be arbitrarily fixed upon as standards and any position may be defined by specifying one of these groups and stating the additional duties required.

If, for example, the statement of qualifications of a branch librarian includes the provision that she shall catalog the books in her branch, but in other respects coincides with those required in St. Louis, we might then describe our position by saying that it is the standard position minus this requirement.

It is conceivable, of course, that the duties of a position might differ so much from those specified in the standard for that of the same name, that the standard would be of no use in describing it. Also a librarian might wish to create a new position embracing a number of duties included among those of several of the standard positions. It would be possible, however, to fix upon standards in such a way, and with such alternatives and grades, that this would not often occur, and its possibility does not incline me to withdraw my commendation of this kind of standard.

Observe, however, that we have still been using the word "standard" in the second sense. If now we require that all positions in libraries shall conform to one or another of the standard groups of duties or qualifications, then these have become standards in the first sense, and the advantages or dis-

advantages of such a course admit of argument.

I assume a general agreement that the fixing of standards in the second sense, namely as units or types for purposes of reference, is desirable where it is possible, and I shall say no more on this point. Standardization in the first sense, namely the fixing of types, in size, shape, color, quality, or the like, to which makers shall be asked or required in some way to confine their productions, is what I propose now to discuss.

It refers only to manufactured articles or to devised and controlled processes or methods. The fact that one may take natural objects, say apples or pebbles, and sort them by size or color does not disprove this statement. The sorted articles are really arranged in classes, and what we have is not standardization at all; or if it is, it is of the second kind. To say that "grade one" of apples shall include all between two specified sizes, is really nothing more than to fix a point of reference and class together all larger objects whose difference from it lies within a specified amount.

The essential character of the kind of standardization that we are discussing lies in our ability to confine production to one or several selected kinds—to require, or at least to recommend, that in future specified articles shall not exist except of colors, sizes, degrees of hardness, assemblage of materials, or what not, clearly laid down, or that the doing of things, by men or by machinery, shall be only in a way specially described, or that named positions shall involve the performance of certain duties, and only these, which last, as I understand it, is the application that interests particularly the A. L. A. committee on standardization. All these things can be done, but it would obviously be useless to insist that hereafter all apples shall weigh precisely a specified number of ounces, or that the Mississippi river shall be in flood biennially and to a specified degree.

Moreover, there are manufactured articles and devised and controlled processes, which, though there is no physical obstacle to the standardization, no one in his senses would think of proposing to standardize. Such are the works and methods of the fine arts. The merit of a painting depends largely on the originality of the artist, and although it would be possible to limit all paintings to certain sizes, containing the representation of specified objects grouped in specified ways and depicted only by particularized methods, such limitation would be universally acknowledged to be a detriment to art, rather than a means for its advancement.

This element is present also in a considerable number of industrial operations, and it is highly desirable that it should be introduced into others. Our people suffer from the idea that art has nothing to do with the common implements and operations of life. Art to them may mean a chromo to hang on the wall or a cast-iron stag for the front lawn. That table utensils, furniture and garments should be of pleasing proportions and graceful shapes has not occurred to them. Standardization would make impossible the introduction of that element of beauty and fitness that would do its part toward giving life a different savor and making it more worth while. Did anyone ever see a beautiful steam radiator? Does anyone doubt that the ancient Greeks, had they heated by steam, would have devised many? They would not have done it by standardization. Of course, the necessary duplication by machinery must remain with us but this does not, as many seem to think, interfere with artistic design. Some of our greatest works of art are duplicated or duplicable—etchings, for example, or bronze statues.

Standardization of this kind, in short, is desirable largely in connection with ready-made articles, parts or processes that do not meet the eye and need not include this element. Ready-made things are most usable when the things

with which they are to be used, or to which they are to be adjusted, are also ready-made. A replaceable part of a watch is handy because the watch is so made that any part, taken from a pile at random, will fit any watch. A ready-made coat is not so desirable because wearers are not made to fit it; there is no coat that will exactly fit any given wearer whatever. Nevertheless, we do use coats of standard sizes, because large-scale production enables them to be turned out more cheaply and they can be adjusted as necessary.

A person trained to do a definite thing in a definite way is like a ready-made article. To fit this kind of training we may have to abolish all ways of doing things except these definite ways. Every trained person will then fit in somewhere, exactly as a standardized machine part fits into a machine.

We are now getting pretty close to the special phase of the subject that interests us, and the questions to be discussed are:

1. What things in library work can be done always in definite ways to advantage or without disadvantage?
2. Are these the same things that persons can be trained to do in these ways, to advantage, or without disadvantage?

Advantage and disadvantage here must be considered with reference to the work and to the worker. We obviously wish to spoil neither.

We may learn something by considering two or three things in libraries that have already been standardized.

First let us take classification. Formerly every library used its own system. Now a very large number use the Decimal system of Melvil Dewey. Have the classification systems of these institutions been thus limited with resulting advantage or disadvantage to them and their workers? Also, can persons be trained in this one system with similar results?

Probably no library now using the decimal system would care to change it. Probably, also, a considerable number that do not use it would adopt it

but for the trouble and expense of change. But undoubtedly some who do not, would not care to change to it. These would probably admit the advantages of a universal system, and would be willing to see all libraries change to theirs, but would vigorously oppose uniformity that meant change in their own procedure, asserting, rightly or wrongly, that they had adapted it to certain conditions peculiar to themselves and that this adaptation would be thrown out of adjustment by any change.

Catalogers may obviously be trained to work with one system of classification more easily than with several, but if there are advantages in maintaining more than one, courses of training must include them all.

Let us now take a different, but equally simple case—that of charging systems. Probably no one would advocate a single, universal system, for the reason that the existence of local conditions to which charging systems must be adapted is generally admitted. There is no reason, however, for an indefinite number of systems. Those in general use may be reduced to a few types. Is there any objection to prescribing these? May a state commission, empowered to distribute a subsidy, for instance, say that the libraries that are to receive it must use either the Newark or the Browne system, or make some similar condition? We should probably get a good many votes in the affirmative here; yet if such limitation were universal, the libraries that have, to their own satisfaction, modified the Newark system by dropping the reader's card, would have been unable to do so.

In its treatment of standardization the A. L. A. committee, as already noted, has not considered processes like the above but has limited itself wholly to the duties of positions and the qualifications therefor, especially in their relations to plans for certification. What has been said above, however, still applies. To consider again a concrete instance, let us take so definite and

familiar a position as that of branch librarians whose duties and qualifications are as well understood as any. I think librarians would agree that if the statement "Miss A. is a qualified branch librarian" could mean that she might at once assume that position anywhere, know exactly what was expected of her, and acceptably carry it out, it would be a Godsend, both to administrators and to trainers. It would, however, undoubtedly mean that the whole administrative machinery and policy of most libraries would have to be adjusted. Of course the positions would have to be subgraded, perhaps by the size of the branch, although size is no criterion of difficulty or complexity. Even so, however, the policy of one library may be to leave branch librarians as independent as possible and that of another to operate a branch system under a superintendent, making the branch librarians virtually his assistants. And there may be, and are, endless modifications and combinations. Duties and qualifications differ in all these. Miss A. who can do exactly as she is told but has no initiative and cannot meet an emergency, might be a good branch librarian under one policy and a very bad one under another. Standardization is possible only if we are able to select one type of policy as the best and adopt it to the exclusion of others. Whether or not this could be done, it is certain, I think, that librarians could be made to agree to it. Adaptation here is not so much to outside conditions as to the temperament and operating methods of the chief librarian. A change of librarian might mean that the administrative policy of the branch system could be changed to advantage. It is difficult to see how this could be effected under any plan of standardization. And this is true, in varying degrees and with obvious modifications, of other department-heads.

As we descend the scale of positions, what has been said above applies less and less, although it never ceases to

have some applicability. Take, for instance, the grade, whatever it may be called, occupied by an assistant when she enters the library service at the bottom. There would seem to be little objection to a general agreement as to her duties and qualifications. Yet even this would interfere with such an experiment as that recently advocated, namely, the entrusting of the routine of desk-work entirely to clerical assistance, without library training. I happen to disapprove of this very heartily, but, of course, such disapproval can affect the argument in no way.

Our American tendency, perhaps inherited from our pioneer ancestors, has always been toward the development of the "handy man," or "man of all work." We rather expect persons to change easily from one occupation to another, and are impatient with any hard-and-fast scheme of duties beyond which one cannot go. Henry Ford, who has certainly been successful in developing administrative machinery that will bring results, even disapproves of definite titles and duties for high administrative officers. The English require many servants, each with limited duties, where one good man or woman, ready to turn a hand to anything, will do for us. Mrs Whitelaw Reid tells how, when her husband was ambassador at the Court of St. James, she personally nailed down a refractory corner of carpet, in the presence of her domestic staff, each of whom protested that it was "not his business." It is satisfactory to learn that she then discharged the whole lot. This is going too far in one direction, although possibly we go too far in the other. It is not true that anybody can run a locomotive or adjust a chronometer, any more than it is true that, as Macaulay protested, "everyone knows a little Arabic." We cannot accept our American tendency as an argument against standardization, but we must not neglect it when we examine whether standardization is likely to be generally agreed upon.

What has been said has been purposely discursive, but in closing it may

be well to attempt to summarize it a little more definitely.

Conclusions

Standardization is desirable, not in itself, but for the attainment of certain ends, among which are:

1. To facilitate or cheapen production of operation.
2. To facilitate or cheapen processes of training or preparation.
3. To facilitate or cheapen mutual adaptation and interchange of parts or elements.

In cases where none of these and no others that can be clearly stated and are obviously desirable, are to be looked for, standardization is contraindicated.

Standardization is undesirable when, although one or more of the results above stated are attained, they bring with them such overbalancing evils as the following:

1. Lack or difficulty of adaptation to environment.
2. Lack or difficulty of adaptation to the skill or ability of the operator.
3. Impossibility of exercising initiative or expressing personality, in cases where this is the important element.

The object of this discussion has been to show that standardization is not desirable for its own sake, and that it is possible to state the conditions that may make it advantageous or the opposite. Application to specific cases has been avoided, except for illustration. There may be no objection, however, to the statement of a few personal convictions, for whatever they may be worth.

1. The adoption of standards of reference in library work is obviously desirable and generally practicable.
2. Standardization in the sense of the adoption of specified type, either by provision of law or by general agreement, is desirable only in a modified sense and with considerable exceptions. Such provision or agreement should be broad, and should admit of much latitude in interpretation.
3. Even where such standardization is possible, the fact that it may involve certain undesirable changes in policy may make it inadvisable.
4. Agreement on the advisability of the adoption of standards by no means involves agreement on what they should be, or willingness to adopt them when satisfactorily formulated.

In the Letter Box

Are Lists Wanted?

Springfield, Mass.

To the Editor:

Again and again librarians have urged the American Library Association to issue reading lists to be sold in quantity for distribution, thus saving the trouble and expense of separate compilation and printing. The association has responded with numerous lists, general and special, long and short, some of them reprints of lists that had proved highly popular in the libraries originating them. The project has not, however, been very successful. Except in a few cases as, for example, the Children's books for Christmas presents, the sales have been disappointingly small.

Consider a recent instance. The association has just printed a forty-page pamphlet called *Books for tired eyes*. This is an exceptionally inviting selection for general reading compiled at the Minneapolis public library, all of the works included being in large type. In the fiction section are many of the best current authors, with a large sprinkling of the standard novelists. As to the non-fiction section, the following series of titles taken at random from the "B's" gives an idea of the variety:

Balfour. Life of Robert Louis Stevenson.
 Barrington. The ladies!
 Beebe. Jungle peace.
 Beveridge. Life of John Marshall.
 Birmingham. An Irishman looks at his world.
 Bisland. Japanese letters of Lafcadio Hearn.
 Booy. Virgin islands.
 Bradford, A. H. Ascent of the soul.
 Bradford, Gamaliel. Portraits of women.
 Brearley. Time telling through the ages.
 Brooks, A. M. Architecture and the allied arts.
 Brooks, C. S. Chimney-pot papers.

A glimpse through the list would almost persuade one that publishers set all their best and most engaging books in large type. There is also an admirable group of children's books.

Libraries that have issued lists like these have found that not only elderly people or those with impaired eyesight are eager for them, but that all sorts of readers are delighted to get hold of a list of such excellent, entertaining books, all printed in large, clear, open type that makes reading them a double pleasure.

Here, then, would seem to be just the kind of list to make a wide appeal. It seemed so promising that at my urgent solicitation, the secretary of the association fixed a price covering the bare cost of printing, with no allowance for editorial or overhead expense, to enable libraries to buy the pamphlet in quantity for distribution. It ought to sell at least 100,000 copies. After circularizing the libraries of the country, the total number of orders received amounts to 4,600 copies. Two thousand of these represent the order of a single library, leaving 2,600 for the rest of the country! What is the matter? Is there something wrong with the lists published? Or do librarians, after all, not want them so much as they think they do? Light on the problem would be decidedly helpful in the publishing activities of the association.

Meantime, the secretary of the American Library Association has arranged to hold the type for *Books for tired eyes*, so that any libraries desiring to purchase in quantity still have a chance to do so at \$27 per thousand copies.

HILLER C. WELLMAN, Chairman,
 Editorial committee, A. L. A.

Mark Twain for Schools, Not Libraries

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The public schools of Williamsport, as of many other cities, rely largely on the Public library for the supplementary reading of their pupils; and high in the list of those books they suggest the pupils borrow are Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn.

In the past, by purchasing rather freely the low-priced school edition, we have been able to afford to the majority of the school children an opportunity to read the works of the foremost American humorist. But we can do so no longer. Our recent order for additional copies was declined by the publishers who informed us that hereafter only schools would be permitted to buy copies. We, and other libraries, must buy the more expensive edition or go without.

I immediately wrote to Messrs Harper & Brothers explaining that 90 per cent of the use made of the copies desired would be by school children, only to receive a letter in reply stating that the Estate of Mark Twain had insisted that they (Harper & Brothers) use every precaution to limit the sale of the school edition to schools.

Property rights are property rights and apparently there is no legal remedy against the discrimination decided upon. Yet the decision is as unfair as it is stupid. The object held in view in printing a cheap edition must have been to get Mark Twain into the hands of school children; it could not have been to dictate to cities thru which of their check accounts (libraries, like schools, derive their incomes from taxes) they should pay the bill.

On this matter, Messrs Harper & Brothers wrote:

Please understand we have no desire to be arbitrary in this matter, and our only suggestion in your case, and in the case of any other library that attempts to supply books for schools, is to show the school department of your city that it is necessary for it to purchase their own volumes of Mark Twain, if they desire to use them in the way in which you and they propose.

This would seem to solve the problem very simply.

It would, I think, be well for the American Library Association to take the matter up with both Harpers and the estate. If the ban laid on the books in question in some of the libraries and school districts was ridiculous, what shall be said of the virtual banning by the publishers, themselves, thru the imposition of an unreasonable

financial burden, of the same books from those cities who choose to regulate the supply of supplementary school reading in a way that Messrs Harper & Brothers deem unwise?

Sincerely yours,

O. R. HOWARD THOMSON.
Williamsport, Pa.

A New Help

Dear Editor:

How many librarians have heard of "Snow White", not the fairy story, but the white water color fluid for marking books and lettering signs?

This first attracted my attention as being worth while because Frances Hannum of the Racine public library likes it, then I tried "Snow White" myself, and several friends also experimented with it. We all find it easy to use because it flows freely and evenly without blots. Those who have difficulty with the usual white inks will no doubt get better results with "Snow White." The enclosed lettering (27 characters) done by a N. Y. P. L. assistant shows good work as this was done with once filling or dipping in of the pen.

It is manufactured by J. W. Johnston, New Arts building, Rochester, N. Y.

ZANA K. MILLER.

New York City.

What is Humor?

Dear Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I was moved to ask you to write an editorial in PUBLIC LIBRARIES regarding the color which has recently come into entertainments at library meetings but I shall refrain for perhaps it is but the general let-up of the past few years and perhaps part of the feverish desire to be democratic which is taking the place of slumming, sentimental pleas for various phenomena. I am afraid the trouble is wide-spread. I am sure that you must have seen the drift yourself but I shall refrain from asking you to give an editorial in PUBLIC LIBRARIES on the subject as second thought tells me that it

would fall on deaf ears. If exposure to the text of some of the printed material for entertainment and sufferance of some of the gyrations is not sufficient, I scarcely think formal protest would help much.

Perhaps I am slipping into senile reactionism because I still feel that education should be dignified. Some of my colleagues here intimidated it, even though there are still some of us who have not bowed our knees to Baal. I suspect it is another case of *De gustibus non est disputandum*.

NEW YORK LIBRARIAN.

* * * * *

On looking over a copy of Library Ballads sent me from the New York state library meeting, I find myself filled with surprise and some disgust. The wording of some of them is not worthy of well-bred people. While the ballads are written in jest, of course, and purely for fun, I dislike to see anything as admirable as library work ridiculed for the pleasure of a moment. The author evidently did not know Miss Kroeger and the others whose names are so lightly mentioned, but those of us who did cannot help but feel that such flippancy is inexcusable. I hope I am not losing a sense of humor but to me there is nothing humorous in these ballads and I am surprised that the officers of the New York state library association would countenance them.

C. H. H.

Hot Springs, Ark., Still There

A note from Miss Alta Smith, whose untiring interest and efforts in behalf of the comfort and pleasure of the A. L. A. visitors to Hot Springs in April won for her the kindly appreciation of the hundreds of visitors, say:

"Hot Springs is fully recovered from the disaster of May 14. There is scarcely a scar left as a reminder of the flood which, by the way, was greatly exaggerated. There were no lives lost and only one death as a result of injuries received during the storm. Only two buildings were destroyed. However, the headlines of the metropolitan papers carried a total death list of 50

and the whole town swept by fire. Hot Springs is finding it difficult to combat this report and is suffering from the injustice of the headlines which followed the storm. Every day brings pitiful letters from the sick and suffering asking if it is still possible to obtain hot water baths. Important improvements calling for an expenditure of \$15,000,000 are under way.

Anything which librarians will do to help contradict the idea that the resort has been wiped off the face of the earth will be deeply appreciated by the people of Hot Springs."

The Librarian in Literature

The librarian in present day literature is a most amusing person, but not one who reflects any great glory on the profession. In Hugh Walpole's *The Cathedral*, the librarian, who has red-rimmed eyes, sits at her table wrapped always in a thick shawl "knitting endless stockings". She hates children. She is said to have the "softest, easiest, idlest job in the world". Moreover, she is a respecter of persons, and sits on a book when any one asks for it other than the person to whom she designs to give it.

Geo. B. McCutcheon, in *Oliver October*, says of one of his characters who is growing old and queer, "that as a last refuge she may be made a librarian."

In R. U. R. the position of librarian is given to one of the mechanical men who have been manufactured to do the work which the human beings despise. It is given to the very brightest Robot, to be sure, but still to a Robot.

What is the trouble? Can not we do something to be more fitly represented in the novel and the drama?

ONE OF US.

Lost Book

Help an ex-soldier find Kipling's *Soldiers* three. It was lost at Camp McArthur and was the property of Private Perkins, U. S. A. Reward given for its recovery. Communicate with Gilbert M. Simmons library, Kenosha, Wis.

Monthly—Except August
and September

Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

216 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year	Foreign Subscriptions - - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Loose Economy

SERIOUS thought should be given to the contents of the letter from Mr Wellman on p. 425 for it sets forth an important truth which has needed to be stressed for a long time.

For many years PUBLIC LIBRARIES has been pointing out the waste of time, money and good material in the matter of lists. As far back as 20 years ago, a movement was made to consolidate production of lists, and the A. L. A. has been most persistent in offering to provide lists that might be sold for a small sum but has never received the support and appreciation which would make such an offer eminently successful and most economical.

Added to these general lists, bulletins of public libraries are issued and when librarians speak frankly about them they say the public is not as interested as it should be, when the cost of these bulletins to the library is counted.

Here is a chance for definite constructive work. Everyone is prone in this day to say that they wish they

could help to stabilize things and bring back some sort of system and efficiency to the world. Why not begin with the thing right at hand?

Without making comparisons at all, the collection, Gifts for children's book shelves, a list of books compiled by the Children's librarians' section of the A. L. A., would be a fine thing for a beginning. Here is the combined result of selection by those who at least have spent years in studying child psychology and the application of its rules to children's reading. Thousands of these lists properly handled by thousands of librarians would bring joy and profit to children, comfort to parents, released time to librarians, not to mention economy in means. At the same time, it would put a stimulus into the hearts of those at A. L. A. Headquarters who are struggling to find out what librarians really want and which of the thousand things that are asked for are really worthwhile preparing. Here is a line of coöperation that will do for a beginning and which will lead to larger things.

"The Williamson Report"

THE long expected report of the Carnegie Corporation of New York on Training for library service, prepared by Dr C. C. Williamson, appeared September 1. The report contains an extensive discussion of the question of professional library training and calls for serious and unbiased consideration, which cannot be done without a longer period of serious study than the time elapsed since its issue would afford.

A statement by the publishers says that Dr Williamson came to the conclusion that library schools of the country were not keeping pace with the needs of the library for trained service, a situation due very largely to the inadequate financial support library schools receive. Because of the inability of library schools to pay salaries to attract experienced and well-trained members of the profession, it has been difficult to keep the standards of instruction on a par with those of other kinds of professional schools.

In a discussion of a plan to increase the number of students in training, the fact was brought out that when the study was made, the enrollment of the existing schools represented only 60 per cent of the physical capacity of the schools. More men and women of first-class ability and qualities of intellectual and community leadership are needed in the library profession.

Among the recommendations made for improving the work of library schools and raising the standards of library service are: Greatly increased budgets to make possible adequate salaries and more full-time instructors; the establishment of fellowships and scholarships; (A worthy idea.); the development of special-

ized courses of study to provide the advanced training now required in many fields of library work; (Necessary to substantiate the claim of librarianship being a profession.); the introduction of correspondence instruction as a means of providing training in service; (A most dangerous proposition, as was pointed out by Mary Wright Plummer in her report to the A. L. A. in 1903; a proceeding which must be hedged about with precautions and equipment, which makes it practically impossible to get adequate instruction for library service by correspondence.); immediate inauguration of a volunteer system of national certification of librarians; (The core of the whole subject of certification under present conditions.); a campaign to strengthen and extend the county library system in order to effect much needed improvement in library service in small towns and rural districts. (This work to be in the hands of persons with real library spirit and not a desire to wave a flag and stand in the spot light!)

The report states as an important conclusion of the study that professional library schools should be organized as departments of the strong universities, as are other professional schools of high rank. Many library schools are at present conducted by state or municipal libraries. (Some of the best medical and law schools, judged by the material they turn out, have had no connection with universities, tho there is no denying that some professional schools connected with universities stand in the front ranks.)

An adequate review of the report has been promised for a coming number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Library Support

THE sound doctrine expounded by the State librarian of California on p. 434 is to be strongly commended and if taken to heart by those entrusted with the development of the library as an integral part of education, public, private or institutional, without doubt would mark a point of departure from indifference and non-support. It can be proven by any number of instances all over the country that the library which takes its rightful place as a worthy educational institution is treated accordingly by the community which it serves. "Two wrongs never made a right" is perfectly true in this matter.

At the Niagara Falls meeting of the A. L. A., 1903, the late well-beloved F. A. Hutchins of Wisconsin an-

nounced that thereafter the Wisconsin library commission "would not countenance pie supper tactics in library support," giving it as his opinion that it generated the wrong atmosphere for full library service and was contrary to real library spirit. And after that, "we watched Wisconsin grow!"

Library trustees and library workers together must lay claim to the very best for library service, must themselves have the real library spirit, otherwise they have no place in library ranks but are misfits who will reduce the library to the position of a needy or poor relation in the community's organization, when it should be in the first place among the real heirs of the best that is available.

A Source of Waste

A letter from Arthur C. Lueder, Chicago postmaster, stresses the regrettable fact of the tremendous amount of undeliverable third class (circular) mail which of necessity is destroyed by the post office authorities.

Mr Lueder states that a good mailing list depreciates about 42 per cent a year and that to be effective it must be continually corrected. All business houses, he states, repeatedly send out carefully prepared advertising matter to towns which are not in the state named and to people who have removed from those places or who are wrongly named. It is likely that those who send out advertising matter think it is not necessary to secure its return but each list represents

a loss of money and unless the lists are corrected, not only one piece of mail will be wasted but a number limited only by the number of times the list is used. Guarantee to pay return postage is really economy since it enables the sender to keep the list up-to-date and to discontinue to send out expensive advertising matter only to have it destroyed by the post office unless it bears the words "return postage guaranteed."

Publishers and librarians contribute no small amount in this matter. Addresses at least 20 years old are still used in sending out circulars, bulletins and other printed matter, all of which is sheer waste.

Death's Toll

Mrs Mary C. Spencer, for 32 years librarian of the Michigan state library, died, August 23.

Mrs Spencer devoted the best part of her life to the development of library service in Michigan. She was indefatigable, in season and out, in urging action tending to larger library service for the state. She left her imprint on extension work, in library classes in normal schools and on the traveling library movement in a way that has formed a sure foundation for their future growth. Her loyalty to her friends, her directness in dealing with people and matters, her idealism in library work made her a force not only in her own state but in library circles generally.

Mrs Spencer had been in ill health for several years and one of the great trials of this was her inability to keep her machinery going at its usual speed.

Mrs Ada Shier, assistant state librarian, died several months ago and her place had not been filled. Mrs Spencer's death, therefore, leaves the State library without an official head.

John B. Wallbridge, for many years secretary of the Public library, Hoopes-ton, Illinois, was killed in an automobile accident, August 5. Mr Wallbridge was a faithful attendant at library meetings, particularly those of the Illinois library association. A man of large business interests, he still found time to devote much attention and work to the care and upbuilding of the library which was very dear to his heart.

The children thruout America will greatly miss the work of their devoted friend, Kate Douglas Wiggin. Wherever her books are read by the children of America, the latter have learned to love the beautiful spirit that gave them the Bird's Christmas carol, Rebecca, Timothy's quest and a number of other beloved friends in Bookland. Taking her all in all, we shall not soon see her like again. She did her work well, lived finely to the end and reverently the American library may say "Hail and farewell!"

Peace Award

The secretary of the A. L. A. requests that PUBLIC LIBRARIES call attention to the following:

Mrs Frank A. Vanderlip, representing the Policy committee of the American Peace Award, desires to have the active interest of the membership of the A. L. A. in the work which it is undertaking. A large number of civic and educational organizations are already engaged and such organizations are asked:

1) To reach the membership with the news of the \$100,000 award and encourage the production of plans in accordance with the offer of Mr Bok.

2) To take a referendum among its members on the winning plan when it is announced.

3) To appoint an officer or member of the association to represent it on the cooperating council of the American Peace Award.

4) To send suggestions for the personnel of the Jury of Award.

Individual and associations are invited to propose plans.

Coöperation in the promotion of the award does not in any sense commit an institution or organization "to any particular program or method of international coöperation. It does assume a belief in making positive and vigorous effort to discover some plan which will be acceptable to all or most of those groups which agree as to the necessity of finding some practicable means by which the United States may do its share toward achieving and preserving the peace of the world."

Librarians who desire to bring the terms and conditions of the award to the attention of readers in their communities are asked to write the American Peace Award, 342 Madison Avenue, New York, for printed copies of the terms for posting on library bulletin boards.

The committee appointed as Jury of Award has been announced as follows: Col E. M. House, Texas; Gen James G. Harbord, Illinois; Ellen Fitz Pendleton, Massachusetts; Roscoe Pound, Massachusetts; Elihu Root, New

York; William Allen White, Kansas; Brand Whitlock, Ohio.

The jury is expected to reach its decision by January 1. The author of the winning plan will receive \$50,000 as soon as the jury makes its decision. The other \$50,000 will be paid when it passes the Senate or when it is demonstrated that it has popular support. The winning plan will be submitted to the American people for a nation-wide vote in June. It is expected that the plan will be presented to the Senate, February 1.

Research Work

American libraries of the reference type will be interested in a reference service which has recently been started in Paris concerning information to be found in foreign publications that are available abroad.

This reference service has been started by the Bibliographical department of *La Revue des Jeunes*, 3 rue des Luynes, Paris. The work is directed and for the most part is done by M. l'Abbé Destrez, editor of *La Revue des Jeunes*, who was a student at the library school conducted by the American committee in Paris last summer. While the work of *La Revue des Jeunes* is primarily in the field of Catholic religion and theology, the Bibliographical department will deal impartially with information on every subject on which information is sought.

The requests which come to the department are much like those which come to American reference libraries. As far as possible the questions coming in are answered from books in the bibliographical department but whenever it is necessary, the large collections of the *Bibliothèque Nationale* and of other French libraries are consulted.

Information concerning books of all publishers will be cheerfully given.

In London, W. J. Payling Wright, 6, Heath Close, London, N. W. 11, offers to engage in research or verification at the British museum or other libraries in London at a price of \$1 an hour, with a reduction in price for longer periods.

Use will be made of the Bodleian library also, at the same rate, with railroad fare and lodging in addition. Work will be pursued in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages. Special subjects are Dante, social and moral hygiene, statistics.

Relation of Paper to Bookbinding

The quality of paper used in a book has a direct relation to its wearing qualities. If the paper is flexible and contains some fibre, it will stand very much harder usage, with the same treatment, than a thick, heavy paper that has very little fibre.

Some twenty years ago, ordinary book paper contained a certain percentage of rags, 5% to 10%. Better book papers contained from 40% to 75%, the remainder being wood pulp. In 1905, we printed the History of Hadley, purchasing laid antique paper, guaranteed to be 70% rag, for 7½¢ per pound. This paper, today, is as good as when first printed and will, undoubtedly, last several hundred years. We also printed a series of Indian Captivities and used "Mittineague Alexandria" paper, guaranteed to be all rag and containing not over 4% mineral matter. By mineral matter is meant usual clay, used to give a better printing surface. A great many book papers are filled with clay. For a number of years ordinary book paper has contained nothing but wood pulp. Before the war a great deal of foreign pulp was used, treated by the sulphite method. This foreign pulp is made from larger growth trees than we now have in this country, and the sulphite method of treatment leaves more fibre in the material and, hence, greater strength.

During and since the war, we have been using less foreign pulp and the pulp wood used is of a smaller growth and is treated by the mechanical or soda pulp method; that is, the pulp wood is treated with caustic soda which destroys, in part, the fibre and leaves a thick, pulpy mass which re-

sults in a paper having very little tensile strength.

Six or eight years ago the ordinary novel contained from 400 to 500 pages, was printed on ordinary book paper treated by the sulphite method, and bulked to one or one and one-half inches. Such a book sold for from \$1.50 to \$2.00. Such a book today, under present costs of labor and materials, would have to retail at from \$2.25 to \$2.50. In all probability the public would refuse to pay this price for the ordinary novel. Therefore, in order to keep the price of the book down the practice of "bulking" the paper was resorted to. That is, the paper was made about twice the usual thickness of the ordinary paper, and the book of 300 to 350 pages bulked as thick as, formerly, a book of 400 to 500 pages. This paper is made, for the most part, of soda pulp; contains little fibre and, as a consequence, tears very easily, and it is almost impossible to bind it in any way so that it will give a reasonable amount of service with the hard usage it receives in public libraries or schools. But, as long as there is a demand by the general public for "bulk" rather than "quality," publishers will continue to use this "extra bulked" paper to a certain degree.

Last year much of the paper was extremely "bulkied." Owing to the representations made by librarians and the A. L. A. book committee the paper this year shows a decided improvement. It is not "bulkied" so much and is very much more flexible, altho probably containing no more fibre or resisting quality in the sheet.

In binding a book the ordinary rounding and backing of flexible paper would put a little crease just above the stitch. This thick, heavy paper will not crease by the ordinary method. In order to take the strain from the stitch and to make it possible for a book to give adequate wear it is necessary to make an artificial crease. In our library binding we have been using what is called a creasing machine for this purpose. Each signature is run

thru this machine and creased in one or two places, which is similar to the creasing that is used on large blank books, and has a tendency to make the book more flexible and relieves the strain on the stitch. By taking a little pains this artificial crease can be put in by hand, starting at back and front of the book and bending the paper slightly just above the stitch. This will increase the flexibility of the book and will give it a longer life for library use.

There is an old saying that "it is impossible to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear" and it is, likewise, impossible to make as durable and flexible a book when this "extra bulked" paper is used as when the paper is thinner and more pliable.

Another kind of paper which gives very little wear in a library is the calendered or glazed paper. It is necessary to use this paper where there are text illustrations as a smooth finish is essential to print half-tone illustrations with good effect. Very often books are printed on ordinary book paper and the illustrations, on glazed paper, are inserted. In such books as the "Brownie" books and other picture books, the entire book is printed on this glazed paper to accommodate the text illustrations. This paper is made by using a clay and glue sizing. It is then run thru hot calender rolls to give a smooth surface. The process makes the paper brittle, so that it will stand very little handling. This paper, however, is flexible and is better for binding purposes, at the present time, than the thick, bulked paper described above.

The paper that is used in the reprints is probably not quite so expensive but it has greater flexibility. The publishers do not see the necessity of bulking the book as in the original edition. Several publishers have told me that some of their best juveniles and fiction did not sell, in the stores, because the books were printed on thin paper. The bulked paper affects, disadvantageously, libraries in two or

three ways. It takes up space on the shelf; the life of the paper, even if not handled, is only a few years, and if used, will stand very little wear. It has a tendency to break away from the stitch easily, and the edges become torn and frayed, so that it is almost impossible to rebind. We recently received some books for rebinding and the mending of the torn pages, alone, cost more than we received for the whole job.

At a slight additional cost a better grade of paper might be used and in the case of reference books and books of permanent value this should be insisted upon even tho the cost is somewhat increased; else 20 or 30 years from now books printed on the present grade of paper will be dust. This is also true of newspapers and many documents of great historic value.

H. R. HUNTING

Springfield, Mass.

Discarded Safety Razor Blades*

During the past year it has been my good fortune and pleasure to be permitted to attend several of the district meetings of this association. Your president, who has been indefatigable in the performance of her official duties, has at those gatherings emphasized with much vigor the thought that a real library must be a business asset of the community. It has harmonized thoroughly with my convictions, on such occasions, to play the *obligato* to the main theme of her discourse. She herself has assured me, in private, that the resultant composition did credit to us both, even to the second fiddle. I am accordingly proud to feel that I have been trying to do a little good in the library world, and, also especially, to have lived up to that tenet in my philosophy, "Support your chief".

Some months ago, I read an item in a

library publication of national importance setting forth the fact that discarded safety razor blades make excellent substitutes for regular steel erasers. I have long been aware that these little bits of metal give good satisfaction when used in callous surgery; but it had never occurred to me to use them to remove errors of penmanship or typing. Consequently, I felt that the person offering the idea was resourceful beyond the average. And if that had been the end of her note—observe that librarian is of the feminine gender—I might forever have been an admirer of her intellect and ingenuity; but the item contains a snapper to the effect that discarded safety razor blades may be had very cheaply.

There is in woman, I am told, a more highly developed bargain faculty than man may boast of. Women are shoppers, and perhaps rightfully scorn the helplessness of men who are such easy picking for the shopman, who are prone to take the first thing offered, pay the fancy price, apologize for their troubling, and hurriedly depart. I would not for a moment belittle this quality of getting one's money's worth; for I am sure it has a very important value in the commercial world in keeping the profiteer in the tradesman within bounds. Nor does woman carry the price questioning habit, bargaining if you will, to undue lengths. If she wants a fine coat, or a quality hat, she pays the price. She does not expect to get the one for the price of a knock-about sweater, or the other at a tam-o-shanter figure.

Strange as it may seem, however, practices which most persons would think too small to be tolerated in business affairs are the rule in library economy. Bargain hunting—no, rather penuriousness—has so long been the order of the day in our profession that the result is—discarded safety razor blades, not because they are more efficient than steel erasers, but, forsooth, because they may be had for nothing.

I have taken the trouble to look through some state library publications which, like our *News Notes of California*

*Address at the annual meeting of the California library association, Yosemite, June 4, 1923.

Libraries, exist for the purpose of developing teamwork and competition, of gathering the news and distributing it. In town after town, I learn that the profits of movie shows, donations from churches, benefits with ministers relating their war-time experiences as the drawing card, white elephant and bake sales, community card parties, are the sources from which the library is supported—if support be the word.

Book drives are another very popular method of gathering in the articles of our commerce. This latter device is sometimes employed by librarians, and trustees who in their *persona propria* are big business figures, not because the returns are in themselves so valuable, but perhaps because bad habits are persistent and as they themselves maintain, because of the advertising secured. But I want to be recorded as holding that book drives are a prostitution of professional talent, if the library indulging therein may boast of such quality; and that the publicity gained confirms the public in its generation-old hallucination that a library can be efficient on a charity basis. Accept gifts of good books, surely, when they are offered out of the good will of the giver. Do not hesitate to refuse firmly but courteously the dumpings of the spring clean-up which some ill informed citizen may good-heartedly attempt to wish off on the library, because the stuff by chance happens to be in book form. I would no more train the public to expect a library to be maintained from free will offerings than I would expect the city park system, a bank or a wholesale hardware store to thrive on such treatment.

In one of the library publications to which I referred a moment ago I read a thrilling story of the organization of a joint city and county library. The state in which this drama was enacted was one of the original thirteen—I would be taking little risk if I observed that in the library field its later performance is not in harmony with the daring of that original act. For under the burden of an board of fifteen trustees, headed by an ex-governor, equipped with the donations of the local woman's club and the gather-

ings-in of the high school, and supported by the munificent sum of \$100 per year voted by the city fathers of the county seat, it opened its doors 10 hours a week for the mental, spiritual and physical uplift of the community. The disheartening fact in connection with this incident is that everybody seemed happy as with a job well done. And it was not, mind you, one of those far western counties, a state in acreage, a hamlet in population; but a well settled, no doubt prosperous community, with a population approaching 30,000.

Could you interest 15 important personages, ex-governors, mayors, judges, ministers, matrons and spinsters, in the organization of a peanut stand on any street corner in America? Yet in a business way that is exactly what I would call a county library built according to the specifications set down. When the job is so big, the results so far reaching to town, state and nation, I cannot help deploring the weak effort exerted. Schools organized and operated so feebly would mean a mere ripple in our national life.

The work we have to do is important; on that point we need not argue. But have we tackled the task as if we thoroughly believed in it? The public is willing to buy anything that seems to it worth its money. And it is human enough not to care a rap for many things which somebody thinks good for it. We know the worth of our service. Have we over-modestly neglected or failed to tell the world?

Another point: we speak of our work as being professional in quality. I readily grant you that much of it is up to standard. But only in recent years have we insisted upon the necessity of that thorough training upon which by law or custom other professional groups build. Many of the older librarians by temperament, inclination and hard work, have attained highly creditable rank in their chosen field; but as long as the popular view is that a person who likes books is by virtue thereof a librarian, or may quickly, easily and surely be converted thereto, as long as the library is consid-

ered a nice refuge for immature girls whose parents want them to escape the hard knocks of life, or the refuge of worthy semi-town charges, just so long must we argue the question of our professional standing with an incredulous public. We will get in the end about what we are entitled to.

Danger in gifts

A year ago in commenting on the A. L. A. conference I expressed a doubt as to the value of the wholesale gifts which Mr Andrew Carnegie made to libraries in America and abroad. Of this estimable gentleman's good intentions there need be little argument. A library publication saw fit to reprint the article, but for some reason unknown to me blue penciled the few lines in which this thought was expressed. Now while I make no pretense at being a prophet and while I have not looked for confirmation of this opinion in high quarters, I was gratified to read a recent interview with no less an authority than Dr Henry S. Pritchett whose experiences evidently lead him to some of the conclusions I had arrived at.

"There is," he said, "in all giving the ever-present danger of giving unwisely and in such manner as to demoralize rather than stimulate the causes which seek for aid. All giving, like all accomplishment intended for human betterment, cuts more than one way. Oftentimes the by-products of giving, even of giving to a good cause, result in social toxins which do enough harm more than to counteract the benefit that may come from the original gift. Whether the science or even the art of public giving can ever be developed is questionable. More than one generation must pass before the thoughtful man will be in a position to assess the relative good and the possible harm that such trusts can effect."

There are no doubt perfectly safe ways for millionaires to unload their wealth for the benefit of an unsuspecting public before they set out upon the long journey. I am not an expert on such a subject; nor do I question the sincerity of intention of the giver. But I cannot hold with the injunction not to look a gift horse in the

mouth. I would even go so far as to advise the employment of the best horse dentist to be had, in order that the teeth of said prospective gift beast might be critically passed upon. Who knows, he may shortly become a white elephant. Giving to a city has quite as many dangers as giving to an individual. It was not without reason that the Great Book records "it is more blessed to give than receive".

American expenditures

Some of the figures of American expenditures in recent years are truly illuminating. I will leave out of account the automobile which in a decade has advanced from the rich man's toy to our most expensive necessity, totaling staggering billions a year. We are told, from official governmental returns, that in 1920 our bill for face powder—the war was over—cosmetics and perfume amounted to \$750,000,000; that soft drinks, leaving aside those forbidden under the eighteenth amendment but readily purchased nevertheless, reached a total of \$350,000,000; that soap, not the next-to-godliness kind but the variety whose selling quality is its high heaven odor, touched our purse for \$400,000,000; that cigars, cigarettes, tobacco and snuff reached the tidy sum of \$2,110,000,000; and that chewing gum sweetened (?) our breath and befouled our shoe soles to the extent of \$50,000,000. Set over against these nice little totals the fact that the salaries of all teachers in all schools, colleges and universities, public and private, in this country in 1918 amounted to less than \$500,000,000, and you have something by which to measure values. I am almost ashamed to end this paragraph with the anti-climax that America's book bill for 1919, the stuff which is the stock in trade, the inspiration and the very food of America's libraries, reached a miserable mark of \$33,000,000.

What is the matter? Are books in our social and economic life worth so little because they lack in intrinsic value; or are they the gold of California before that memorable January 1848, undiscovered riches awaiting the hand of the

strong and the adventurous? We believe. Let us therefore aim high. Above all may we not set forth upon our enterprise with the conviction and the slogan "Not how cheap but how worthwhile our wares"? Here as elsewhere the community will get out of the thing in proportion as it pays in.

And now I come to a few particulars. The State library like other state institutions has suffered a reduction in funds of about one third. You may rightfully ask how does this action square with my philosophy. My answer would be that what happened here and elsewhere through the country is the result of the public's attitude toward our work—and I fear too often our very own—that it has been and can be run on little or nothing a year. When the service is considered a necessity then it will be bought and paid for, let the price be what it may.

Am I disappointed, you may ask? And the answer would be, yes; disappointed but not down-hearted and least of all, surprised. The program ahead is clear: reduce staff, as it happens, by exactly twenty-five persons, but not reduce salaries a penny; discontinue those activities which in our rising funds seemed worthwhile doing, such as home teaching of the blind, but which are not essentially library functions; pare our one branch back so that the parent stem may not be dwarfed; trim sharply expenditures for printing, postage and the multitude of incidentals; let borrowing libraries pay transportation charges both ways; do a higher quality of service if not so great bulk; and above all look ahead, prove day by day that a library, a real library—and no other sort is worthy of the name—is a necessity in the life of a democracy quite as indispensable as the luxuries mentioned above. All life, all growth has periods when seemingly development stops or even recedes; but after a time of rest a new power is generated and finer progress results. The word is "Watch and work."

MILTON J. FERGUSON.

California state library.

American Library Association

The Midwinter library conference will be held in Chicago, December 31, '23, January 1-2, '24. The Sherman hotel will be headquarters.

Miss Lillian H. Smith, head of the Children's department, Public library, Toronto, and chairman of the Children's librarians' section of the A. L. A., has been appointed A. L. A. representative on the Children's Book Week committee for 1923.

Miss Emily Van Dorn Miller began her duties as editor of the *Booklist*, September 1.

The list of A. L. A. committees for '23-'24 has been made up and will shortly appear in the *A. L. A. Handbook*. In the meantime, any needed information regarding the matter will be supplied promptly by A. L. A. Headquarters if such information is necessary before the *Handbook* appears.

The fifth annual Children's Book Week will be observed, November 11-17, 1923. Each community may want to develop its own idea of Book Week but those who wish to have suggestions can get them from the Children's Book Week committee, American Booksellers' Association, 334 Fifth Avenue, N. Y.; A. L. A. Headquarters, 78 East Washington Street, Chicago, and the Library department of the Boy Scouts of America, 200 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Miss Jessie M. Carson, director of the Library department, American committee for Devastated France, has been awarded the *Palmes Académiques*, with the title of *officier d'Académie*, by the French department of public instruction. This honor was conferred on Miss Carson in recognition of her services in French library work.

The temporary library training board authorized at the Hot Springs meeting of the A. L. A. has held two meetings, the first meeting being held in New York in May and the second in Chicago, July 19.

The personnel of the board is as follows: Adam Strohm, chairman; Linda A. Eastman, Andrew Keogh, Harrison W. Craver, Malcolm G. Wyer, and Sarah C. N. Bogle.

The functions of the board are "to investigate the field of library training, to formulate tentative standards for all library training agencies, and to devise a plan for accrediting such agencies," or, as the Committee on library training stated it, "to initiate some permanent machinery for carrying the provisions or plans into effect." (See P. L. 28:374.)

A careful study has been made of the standards of training that have been adopted by other professional and educational organizations and discussion covered the most important problems involved, in a tentative way, but no definite action was taken at either meeting.

Some of the questions under consideration are:

Should the most advanced type of professional education for librarianship be on a strictly graduate basis with

- a) A full college course including certain specified subjects as an entrance requirement?
- b) A specified amount of elementary or general library training—or equivalent approved experience—as a prerequisite?
- c) Courses of from one to three years which measure up to the standards of graduate study leading to master's and doctor's degrees in the large universities?

Should there be another type of professional training for librarianship to be known as Class B—with

- a) Three years of college work including certain specified subject as an entrance requirement?
- b) A curriculum giving a one-year elementary or general course in library economy?

Should colleges and universities which conduct library schools be encouraged to give a combined course—library and collegiate—leading to a bachelor's degree?

Should other types of training with lower entrance requirements—such as library training course, the general elementary summer school course and apprentice classes—be termed non- or sub-professional?

Should not any library training agency be required to meet certain tests covering such

points as teaching qualifications of the faculty, financial support, student body, equipment, etc., in addition to the proper entrance requirements and prerequisites before receiving the approval of the permanent Library training board?

Full information and all points of view are sought by the Board, which will welcome any suggestions from those interested in this work.

The American library in Paris has received a grant of \$5000 for 1923 and \$4000 for 1924 from the Laura Spelman Rockefeller memorial. A gift of \$3000 from Prof William Emerson for the establishment of a department relating to international affairs is also reported. Another gift of \$1000 was made by George Sherman.

More than 3000 books and pamphlets have been shipped abroad thru the Bureau of international exchanges of the Smithsonian institution. Many more books are needed.

The A. L. A. has received official receipts for contributions and financial assistance sent the Russian librarians last winter. Letters from librarians from various parts of Russia express the highest appreciation of the kindness of the American librarians, stating that "the support will for some time improve conditions and give us more strength for the work in our mutual profession. More precious than this is the concrete expression of kind and friendly attention from the librarians in the different countries."

A new A. L. A. list which librarians and teachers will find of incalculable value has recently been issued—Gifts for children's book-shelves. It is stated that the list is made up of good books which children actually like, not those they ought to like.

The names connected with the compilation bespeak the worth of the list—Elva S. Smith, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh; Grace L. Aldrich, Public library, Madison, Wisconsin; E. Gertrude Avey, Public library, Cincinnati; Nina C. Brotherton, Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh; Clara W. Hunt, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Elisabeth Knapp, Public li-

brary, Detroit; Avis F. Meigs, school librarian, Long Beach, California; Effie L. Power, Public library, Cleveland; Mrs Caroline Burnite Walker, Easton, Maryland, and F. K. Mathiews, representing the Boy Scouts.

While the lists are issued by A. L. A. representatives (Children's librarians' section), they may be obtained with a special imprint, \$1.00 extra for any quantity, if ordered before the reprinting date, November 15. Orders should be sent to A. L. A. Headquarters, Chicago.

The list may be obtained at following prices:

100 copies	\$ 2.00
250 copies	4.00
500 copies	7.00
1000 copies	12.00
5000 copies	55.00
Postage extra.	

Library Publicity for the "Week" Celebrations

Offered by the Publicity committee, American Library Association, N. R. Levin, chairman, Chicago, Illinois

Most librarians plan to take part in some of the "week" celebrations. The movements themselves are worthy and the libraries will gain by taking advantage of the opportunity to bring their service to the attention of new groups in the community.

The next "week" campaigns are: Children's Book Week, November 10-17; American Education Week, November 18-23.

The A. L. A. publicity committee is here submitting a statement of possible methods for capitalizing for the library some of the general publicity resulting from the different campaigns:

In all cases displays of books on the subject are possible. These collections can be used in the library and local stores. The banks, furniture stores, flower shops, department stores, etc., will probably be willing to supply space. Window displays can often be effectively illustrated by appropriate pictures, objects or puppet figures in costume.

Supplementing book displays are special lists of selected titles. These can frequently be obtained from the

national organizations and from A. L. A. Headquarters. Distribute them at meetings, schools, moving picture special performances, and mail to selected lists of prospective library patrons.

Posters are very effective, both those obtained from the local committees and "home talent" in art classes, and high schools. Use them all over town, outside the library.

Newspaper publicity is easy to obtain by supplying news stories to your local editor. The best way to get into the papers is to *do something* that will be news.

Moving picture houses are often willing to use slides, which may be obtainable from the sponsoring organization, or can be made from photographs, posters or slogans.

Meetings and lectures in the library with special speakers can be arranged with the aid of the local committee. These should be given plenty of advance publicity through the press and elsewhere.

Special story hours for children can be made a feature of certain programs.

Take advantage of any appropriate special "days" of the "week." Easy publicity is possible in this way.

Whatever your plans are for coöperating, it is *important to begin long enough in advance* of each "week" in order to gather books and posters, and arrange for speakers and displays.

The A. L. A. publicity committee will gladly help as much as possible.

The national organizations sponsoring each campaign are eager to supply material and suggestions to all libraries interested. Write to the National office of the organization, if there is no local committee in your community. If there is a local committee, it can be used for advice and help. Other social groups may be interested in the same campaign. Get in touch with them and work together wherever practicable. The library may materially enlarge its acquaintance and clientele merely through the new contacts established thru participation in one of the "weeks," as it is usually a community project.



Library School in Paris

A milestone in the development of the new library service for France was the library school for French librarians conducted in Paris during June and July, 1923, under the auspices of the American committee for Devastated France, in coöperation with the American Library in Paris.

From the 97 applicants, 50 students were carefully chosen. Altho the course was primarily for French librarians, the class included two Russians, two Belgians, one Swiss and one English woman, all of whom followed the course in French.

The school was the outgrowth of the library work of Miss Jessie Carson, for the American committee, who felt that it was important that French men and women should be trained to carry on the libraries which had been started as well as the constantly increasing number being established, when they were taken over by the French communes.

The A. L. A. coöperated by lending the assistant-secretary, Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, to organize and direct the work. Other members of the faculty were Mlle Rachel Sedeyn, librarian of the University of Brussels; Miss Mary P. Parsons, Morristown, N. J., and Mlle Ducaroy, who spent last year at Western Reserve library school. Miss Theresa Hitchler, Brooklyn, N. Y., who was spending some time abroad also gave several lectures on cataloging. M. Firmin-Roz, assistant-director of the National library board of France, directed the course in book selection in which he himself gave the controlling lectures. M. Morel, librarian, National library, gave a course in reference work. Other lectures in bibliography were given by M. Coyecque, inspector general, Municipal libraries, Paris; M. Girard, Ministry of foreign affairs; M. Dupont-Ferrier, *Beaux-Arts*; M. Rizler, Geographic society; M. Bourrelrier, of Armand Colin; M. de Champion,

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National library, and M. Levy, National conservatory of Arts and Crafts.

The school had the benefit of a number of addresses by American librarians who were passing thru Paris—Edward F. Stevens, Pratt institute, Brooklyn; Miss Mary Davis, New York public library; Miss Ethel McCollough, librarian, Evansville, Ind, and Miss Effie L. Power, Cleveland.

Interest in American library ideas and desire for training in American methods are becoming wide-spread in France. Inquiries from many different parts of Europe are coming in to the American library in Paris.

Two members of the library class who showed marked qualities of leadership have been sent to the United States by the American committee for intensive training in American library schools.

It is the plan to have another summer school course in 1924, which course will be followed by a regular full-time library school in the Fall, with a course as thorough as any library school course in the United States. The best standards of library training in vogue will be adapted to French conditions.

An A. L. A. Exhibit

The A. L. A. presented a hospital library exhibit at the meeting of the American Medical association in San Francisco, June 25-29. Posters and pictures of hospital reading rooms and the work from all over the country were included, especially those relating to library work for disabled veterans of the World war. There are 32 of these hospitals with regularly equipped libraries and trained librarians. A number of public libraries which have taken up service to hospitals as a part of their work were also represented, among them Detroit, St. Louis, St. Paul and Sioux City.

Notable among the private hospitals recognizing the need of library service is Mayo Brothers hospital, Rochester, Minnesota. The work was started there in May, 1921, and has grown until in

March, 1923, it became an independent organization with a trained librarian in charge and with fully equipped reading rooms in the four separate hospitals. Posters and photographs of these hospitals excited much interest at the A. M. A. convention.

Universal satisfaction and enthusiasm attended the exhibit and many suggestions were offered and many questions asked. A prospectus of "The Hospital Library," edited by Miss E. Kathleen Jones, and a reprint of Two hundred and fifty books for ward patients, from *Modern Hospitals*, prepared by Elizabeth Green and Eleanor R. Gifford, were given to all interested.

The exhibit as it was shown at San Francisco was originally assembled by Dr A. E. Bostwick for the St. Louis convention in 1921. It was brought up-to-date with many additions showing the growth of the movement, by Mrs Nettie K. Gravett, hospital librarian, U. S. Veterans' hospital No. 24, Palo Alto, California, who was in daily attendance.

The Wentworth Company of San Francisco, agents for Library Bureau, furnished the exhibition booth with equipment and library furniture to show how to organize a hospital library. The Emporium book department supplied a collection of late popular and standard books suitable for the sick. A book wagon to carry books and magazines to the wards and other special equipment for the work created much enthusiasm as their possibilities were explained.

The constant looking backward to what might have been, instead of forward to what may be, is a great weakener of self-confidence. This worry for the old past, this wasted energy, for that which no power in the world can restore, ever lessens the individual's faith in himself, weakens his efforts to develop himself for the future to the perfection of his possibilities.

—William George Jordan.

Movie Stories

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers associations recommends the following films for the family. They have been reviewed by the Better Films committee and afford clean and wholesome recreation.

For the family, from 10 years up:

Penrod and Sam. A Booth Tarkington boy story, splendidly done, affording the entire audience, both old and young, a jolly time.

Johnson's African big game. Like H. H. Snow's experiences in Africa, brought vividly to us.

The Soul of the beast (Ince). A trained elephant performs to the delight of the children. There is much brutality which might better have been omitted. If you are in a position to cut, you can improve the picture greatly.

Jackie Coogan in Circus days. In order to show Jackie's splendid abilities, they give us too much abuse on the part of cruel grownups towards him. I wish his managers would let us laugh with him, instead of always drawing on our sympathies. No one likes to see a child abused, and to other children it is too real.

An Old sweetheart of mine. Riley's short poem is drawn out to film length, but it is a clean addition and in harmony with the poem. If it will induce other mothers to take out the Riley poems and read them to the children, even to the little four year olds (especially The Bear story), then the filming of this little poem, has been a wonderful achievement.

The Go-Getter. A Peter Kyne story of a young man out to win a girl and a fortune.

Slippy McGee. From the story of same name. An unusual film because it reproduced the spiritual message of the book.

Wrecks (Cameo Studio). A good, clean comedy about old autos.

For high-school age or over:

Charles Ray in The girl I loved. From Riley's poem. A beautiful production but, to many, it was spoiled by the overdone dreams. If these were cut out it would make a perfect production.

Walter Hiers in Sixty cents an hour. Comedy drama, inane but harmless.

Jack Holt in A gentleman of leisure. Comedy drama in which Jack Holt enlists the aid of a burglar to win a bet.

Down to the sea in ships. The pictures of the sea and whaling make it very worth while. The quicker you forget the brutal love story which runs through it, the better.

Lon Chaney in All the brothers were valiant. A sea story.

Human wreckage. Because it is said that the drug habit permeates our high schools, this film of Mrs Wallace Reid's is included. The school or the church, however, seems a better place to impress this upon the minds of the young people than the theatre, supposed to be a place of amusement. If this picture will bring home to parents the horrible conditions prevailing amongst the actors who are entertaining our boys and girls, and becoming their heroes, then Wallace Reid's death will not have been in vain.

Thomas Meighan in Homeward bound (Paramount). Interesting scenes at sea, and a pretty love story running through it.

Harold Lloyd in Safety last. One must bear in mind that this is trick photography and no occasion for getting excited.

Mrs. Charles E. Merriam, Chairman,
Better Films committee, 6041 University Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.
September, 1923.

Bulletin Board Card

Do you want a book about:

Russia or Rabbits
Golf or Gardens
Roses or Reptiles
House Plans or Hens
Music or Mummies
Autosuggestion or Automobiles
Potatoes or Psychology
Butterflies or Business
Poetry or Pottery
Ice or Icing
Batteries or Bonds
Dancing or Diet
Singing or Swimming

WE have it—

YOU may take it home

Do you enjoy movies? Ask for our list "Some books shown in moving pictures."

Do you want a current magazine? This department circulates 36 magazines.

Do you read a foreign language? We have books in French, German, Dutch, Danish, Swedish, Italian, Spanish, Bohemian, Russian, Yiddish.

Come to the circulation department, on the first floor of the Library building. Our reader's assistant will be glad to help you find what you want.

—Omaha Public Library Bulletin.

American Library Institute Lake Placid meeting

About 30 librarians, the majority of whom had been in attendance at the New York State library meeting at Silver Bay, met in Lake Placid club at the invitation of Dr Melvil Dewey, for a meeting of the A. L. I. Preceding the meeting, Dr Dewey gave a talk on the history of the Lake Placid club with special emphasis on the educational foundation. He told of the work that had been done, the school for boys and the school for girls, and of the constant aim of the directors to lend a helping hand to librarians and all other educators who, from long strain or over-work, were in need of such change as could be had from a residence of from three to six months at Lake Placid. Dr Dewey outlined the educational plan for the future when they hope to be able to prepare exceptional students for entrance to college on special endowments.

The first meeting of the institute proper opened with a paper by Dr. A. E. Bostwick on Standardization (See p. 420). President Andrews called attention to the common error that everything must be standardized. The great variety of work and the varied emphasis is one of the best features of library development in this country.

Dr Richardson called attention to the fact that historically, in this country, standardization began with the standardizing of catalog cards. It is unfortunate that experimenting always has to be done at somebody's expense and this is usually at the expense of the most enterprising libraries. Harvard, Columbia and Yale, where the index cards were used when first introduced, some 40 years ago, are now paying for their enterprise in being compelled to change from the index to the standard. The new standard size of cards had become established before the Library of Congress began printing cards and fixed it presumably for all time. It was this standardization that made possible a union catalog.

Yet the time comes when standards must be revised and there is a great gain to be had from putting our wits together and discussing proposed revisions of standards before adopting them. The standardization of library classification by Dr Dewey was a great step forward. There is a great advantage to anyone going from one library to another, classified according to a standardized system. No standardization is perfect. Years ago the French thought that the classification for the *Bibliothèque Nationale* or the one in Brunet would be the last word. The decimal system made a standard notation. The Library of Congress system introduced a new notation. Would it be worth while to attempt any radical revision in the D. C. or the Library of Congress classification? The Belgian variation of the D. C. is being introduced widely on the continent. No classification can hope to remain final. Would any of the many variations or the Belgian version approach finality?

A quarter of a century ago when the Princeton library was being reclassified, they said that they could not use the D. C. in theology, science or art. Professors in these fields were asked to draw up classifications of their own. Professors of art treated the subject historically, and when Princeton became richer and a professor of painting was introduced, he said that the historical classification then in vogue would not answer his needs. Harvard has been reclassifying for the last 30 years, and the Library of Congress for the last 25 years. Reclassifying only a minimum of the old books in the big libraries will be found to answer needs in certain cases. "Mental and moral philosophy," to use old terminology, cannot be adapted to the new terminology. Why not, therefore, let books with such titles remain in the old classification? It is not necessary that all books in a large library should be classified in one and the same system. Much of the old and more or less dead literature can well remain un-

touched. Mathematicians, for example, do not ordinarily care so much about the older books, but they want all the newer books after a certain date reclassified. It is fundamental to have certain standards in cataloging and also in purchasing, in inter-library loans and other branches of library work.

The John Crerar library, said Dr Andrews, has done what Dr Richardson asked for. They "ring" certain numbers for books published previous to a certain date, which means that they are allowed to remain untouched by the reclassifier. Dr Dewey, in reviewing the history of the decimal classification, said that discussion always centered on how many libraries would follow the changes proposed. He, himself, had always been an advocate of standardization in the various lines, weights and measures, printing, spelling and the like. Nearly all civilization is based on standardization. Witness the railway gauge, the watches of today and the most popular automobiles, with interchangeable parts.

Dr Dewey called attention to the fact that if you change your classification too much, you lose the benefits of standardization. On the other hand, an institution is like a tree. When it ceases to grow, it begins to rot.

Further revision of the Dewey Decimal classification was suggested by Professor Root by the use of some symbols such as have been used at Princeton, indicating that a particular section of the classification had not been revised. While the D. C. is followed rather closely at Oberlin, it is felt desirable that more freedom be given in order to accommodate it to the rapid changes in scientific literature, as in psychology, where the terminology of the older literature was already out of date and the new books would not fit into the old scheme. Dr Dewey asked how soon a change in any science would make necessary a still further change. For example, nothing much had been done in the revision of theological classification for

several score of years, and he wondered how frequently any particular section would have to be revised. Dr Andrews stated that they had materially widened the scope of the D. C. at the John Crerar library by the use of certain terminal periods, putting all books after such and such a date in a revised schedule.

Dr Dewey agreed that, as the sciences would change more rapidly than other subjects, such a scheme is entirely practicable. Old books were written from old standpoints and could remain in the old category. Dr Andrews said that he found the greatest difficulty in mathematics where he thought that it would be necessary to widen the scope of the different categories. The place for algebra is 512; 512.9 might be new developments in this subject. Dr Dewey suggested that the A. L. A. committee might be asked to take up the whole question. In general, he thought that a layman might have better suggestions to make than a professional classifier, and the lines indicated seemed to him the only practicable way to meet the necessary changes. You can't tear up the old books. When the time comes that certain books are out of date, revise the classification to fit the new books written from a modern standpoint.

Dr Andrews felt that if libraries generally adopted the Biscoe numbers, it would be more simple. The arrangement of certain books chronologically solves the question in certain fields like Transportation, where, of course, the original schedule had no place for electric cars, which were non-existent at the time.

Dr Koopman emphasized the fact that it was more convenient and cheaper to have things standardized. In a material field, standardization should be the rule, but not so in intellectual and spiritual fields. Our institutions should not be standardized, but rather individualized.

Professor Root stated that in many libraries, including his own, a noticeable lack among bibliographical tools

was a complete catalog of the British museum. All but eighty-five parts of this catalog can be bought today. Professor Root raised the question as to whether permission might not be secured to reproduce by photostat or otherwise these missing parts. He also hoped that some method might be devised to bring together in one alphabet the accessions to the British museum of the last 40 years. In this connection, Professor Root also spoke of the several attempts to print the continuation of Sabin's dictionary, stating that the Yale University Press was ready to print it, but the man who had offered to finance it a few years ago was no longer in a position to do so. The Carnegie Institution has already spent about \$10,000 on this work.

Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant-secretary of the American Library Association, gave an interesting report on the summer library school conducted at the American library in Paris.

Dr Andrews spoke of the new processes of printing facsimiles, including the typar writing machine. Here the operator sets up his copy by the use of a keyboard resembling that of a typewriter, but permitting of a large variety of type faces. This process does not require the use of any special paper, half-tones being reproduced on other than glazed paper.

The secretary spoke on the present state of the German book market. He cited several illustrations to show that the favorable opportunities for purchasing in Germany which characterized 1922 were a thing of the past. In May, 1922, the average cost per volume of books imported from Germany by the Harvard library, including binding, was 36 cents. By August, 1922, this had fallen to 9½ cents, while in October, 1922, it had dropped to the fantastic low level of 4½ cents per volume. By March, 1923, the average price had risen to 97 cents, but even this compared with the average pre-war cost of \$3 per volume was still a bargain. A decided change for the worse came in the Spring of the pres-

ent year, when, to cite just one illustration, the index to the volume of Hedwigia, published in 1911 at 20 marks, was billed at \$13.20.

Mr Hans Harrassowitz, the German book-seller, sent a long letter stating that he was planning to come to this country in October for the purpose of talking over the German book problem. This letter was read in part. He said that things were happening so fast in the book trade, as in all other economic lines during the panicky times resulting from the catastrophic slump of the mark, that a large number of publishers, including such big ones as Springer, Teubner, the Verein Wissenschaftlicher Verleger, have entirely closed their export departments for the time being, in order to await more stable conditions. Of course, the reason was that if the bill was made out in paper marks, money depreciated so rapidly that when the bill was paid on the day of settlement (normally from eight to fourteen days) it was worth only a fraction of the amount actually due. As a result, business relations between publishers and book-sellers, especially exporters, can be carried on only in foreign currency, as has been the rule for some time past. The publisher writes, therefore, on his bill only the amount of the *grundzahl*, and the book-seller or exporter must multiply this basic number with the key number for the day of the transaction. How rapidly this key number has been climbing up is shown in a table published in the *Boersenblatt*, from which it is seen that during fourteen days of August, 1923, the key number mounted from 41,000 to 700,000 or nearly twenty-fold, meaning that a book priced at the basic figure of 10 marks would therefore cost 7,000,000 paper marks. This key figure is based on the present day rise of prices in Germany, or in other words, it depends on our old friend, the high cost of living. The cost of book production, including paper, printing, wages, book-binding and other items, is checked up and the key number is agreed on accordingly.

As a result of these conditions the production costs in Germany are above the prices of the world market, so that a German book costs more in Germany than outside of Germany. For example, a book with a *grundsatz* of 10 costs at the time of writing 10 Swiss francs or \$2, or in Germany 7,000,000 marks. But at the time of writing, \$2 in America equalled only 6,000,000 marks. This is one of the paradoxical contradictions of the international exchange situation.

Harrassowitz says that up until the present time if he ordered a book from a publisher for a German customer, he could get it at a considerably lower price than if he ordered it for export to America. The price for the home market was always somewhat lower than for export purposes, as the German costs of production and of doing business were lower than those abroad. The difference between prices in the home and foreign markets was made up by a *valuta zuschlag*, until later on prices for foreign countries were fixed in foreign currency. Foreign purchasers complained quite a bit about this practice. From now on they have no reason for complaint, for in reality they now pay no more than the Germans themselves. In fact, at present they pay even somewhat less. Harrassowitz says that if he orders a book for export to America he can get it cheaper than if he were buying it for a local customer. This, of course, is a condition that will soon pass. Meetings are now being held for the consideration of this problem. The aim is to secure equal prices for Germany and abroad through the establishment of a gold basis. How this will be accomplished is more than one can predict.

The question is, what will be the next development? Will it still be possible to print books in Germany if the cost of production there is higher than in other countries?

A further outcome of the present situation is that the control over the exportation of books (as well as of other wares) has no longer any excuse for existing. Now, since book prices for home and abroad are on the same level—if not even

more favorable for abroad—free export will be the rule on October 1. This will mean a considerable easing off of the difficulties which the exporters have had to face and particularly the more expeditious shipping, which, of course, will be of benefit to American libraries and scholars.

THEODORE W. KOCH,
Secretary.

New York Library Week

The thirty-third annual meeting of the New York library association was held at Silver Bay, Lake George, September 3-8. The location was very convenient and the scenery beautiful; arrangements for the meeting places, cottages and athletic facilities, with opportunities of visiting noted places in the region, were greatly enjoyed.

There was a total enrollment of 439, 22 states being represented and two provinces of Canada, other organizations besides those of New York state having accepted invitations to be present. Of those present, 239 were members of the New York association, 12 from the Connecticut library association and 51 from the Massachusetts library club.

The librarians of large libraries, members of the Bibliographical society of America and Eastern college librarians were represented. The A. L. A. gave its stamp of approval to the meeting by making the gathering a regional meeting.

The morning programs consisted largely of conferences intended for librarians of large libraries but to which many persons contributed. These conferences resolved themselves practically into what might be called three-day institutes. Three sessions were held, at all of which there were large audiences, though the discussions were kept in the hands of representatives of large libraries.

At the first meeting, presided over by Dr A. E. Bostwick of St. Louis, Walter L. Brown, Buffalo, outlined the measures already taken to secure

English books in foreign translations for adult immigrants who cannot read English but to whom the library owes an obligation to present the spirit of America thru the use of books.

Recent problems of administration were presented by Howard L. Hughes, Trenton. These problems, according to Mr Hughes, result from limited means, lack of sufficiently roomy quarters, and a dearth of well trained library workers. The question of quality in books is one which gave some concern.

Miss Zaidee Brown, New York, described the idea of a central bureau for supplying book lists. Every one in the audience thought that Miss Brown's efforts in this line deserved the heartiest support from all libraries.

The success of such a plan would avoid duplicates of effort and place the book list resources at the disposal of many libraries instead of one.

A paper by George H. Tripp, New Bedford, on The Responsibility of the librarian in raising the cultural ideals of the community set forth the belief and practice of Mr Tripp, as witnessed by his work in New Bedford for many years.

At the second session of the librarians of large libraries, the subject under discussion was Library buildings, presented in a most exhaustive and reasonable form by Electra C. Doren, Dayton, Ohio, librarian, Public library. In treating the phase of the subject, "Building sites for libraries in cities of 200,000 to 400,000," Miss Doren received the hearty approval of her audience. A very helpful discussion followed. Miss Doren has consented to prepare her address for printing in a form that can be distributed easily. It contains much information for prospective builders, particularly when the locality is faced with the problem of locating branches.

Willis K. Stetson, New Haven, gave a short talk on the Faults of a library building, but tho his convictions may have been very strong much of what

he said was lost thru inability to hear it.

Carl P. P. Vitz, Toledo, Ohio, presented his favorite topic, Ways and means of maintaining community, school and institutional stations. Mr Vitz recognizes no obstacle in the way of sincere library spirit.

One of the most pleasing features of the Silver Bay meeting were the noon-day round-table conferences. These were well planned and attracted a considerable number of persons, many times groups too large for the quarters assigned. For the most part there was informal discussion and suggestions were spontaneous. One of the most delightful of these was the conference on Children's work under the direction of Alice Jordan, Boston. Margaret Jackson, Hempstead, L. I., led the conference on Problems of small libraries, as to sources of material, its distribution and supervision of the work. Mary L. Sutliff, New York, was most interesting in throwing light on the subject of cataloging and classification for small libraries, urging that simplicity be the rule and that the question of making material available for use of those who needed it should be the underlying thought of the work rather than the development of intricate systems. A most enlivening discussion was that under the direction of Zaidee Brown on Book selection. On the last day her subject was Novels, new and old, and ran into an interesting and lively discussion on prohibited and reserved novels.

Binding and mending seemed to have a favored place on several occasions, these conferences producing much discussion and probably clarifying many ideas on the subjects. The main thought seemed to be "inexpensive" binding but one might be justified in questioning whether this work would not be less expensive if put into the hands of professional binders or itinerant binders and menders, using the time and strength of the library workers for more legitimate library service. It will be interesting some

day when one competent and willing to judge fairly will make a comparison and computation showing the real balance in the account relating to "in-expensive binding."

At a conference on Radio and the library, Frank L. Tolman, Albany, said that he thought the library must reckon with the home radio set as it is taking the place, in a large measure, for home entertainment which the book from the library, read a few hours each evening, formerly held. He feels strongly that at the present stage of development of the radio no library should attempt community concerts in library buildings under library auspices. However, in the vicinity of broadcasting stations, libraries should consider as part of their legitimate program the broadcasting of worthy stories for children by the children's librarian as a way to put an end to the stories of poor content, often badly told, which now form a part of so many "bedtime" programs.

The point of view of a man actively engaged in popularizing the radio was presented by Arthur W. Lynch, editor of *Radio Broadcast*. Mr Lynch outlined a way in which he believed the library and radio might best come together. He counseled that the library bulletin board should carry to the public information as to what various stations were presenting. He also said that broadcasting of library publicity of a popular and general nature, nothing intricate or high-brow, would be of great value and that broadcasting stations would be glad to include material of this sort in their programs.

The presidential address of Dr A. H. Shearer, Grosvenor library, Buffalo, may perhaps be called the one original thing that has been said about libraries in a long time. It certainly made some of the conservatives "sit up and take notice" as Dr Shearer, in speaking on *The Library as index of social movements*, finally worked out the idea that the public library is a very definite socialistic movement. He said in part:

The Library as an index of social movements

In the Middle Ages, the churchmen were the ones who could use and needed libraries, therefore, they collected them, took care of them, and used them. In the Renaissance, the learned class extended beyond the church, and those interested in the use of books gathered around the universities, so that libraries were found as an accompaniment of university instruction.

In the American colonies, the clergy and the colleges, while often synonymous, were the ones who needed the libraries, and who, in general, had them.

In the early history of the country, under the constitution, the political leaders were the "rich, the well-born, and the able", and libraries were almost exclusively for them. With the increase of the democratic spirit, after the War of 1812, came the need for adult education and information, with the result that the first American tax supported library was established during Jackson's administration, and state library laws followed shortly after. The rising library movement was checked to a certain extent by slavery and the Civil war, when popular discussion and information came in other ways, but after the war, the libraries found themselves as an institution and a profession, in 1876. There followed a great expansion in the number of libraries and also in the functions, including the feeling that the library was no longer a passive receptacle but an active force carrying its resources to people who might not otherwise have been interested. It became one of the social agencies, leading rather than following. In its support, its control and direction by the state, its response to people's demands, it became an example of socialism. It fulfills the requirements of the socialist platform as laid down in 1875 and recently reiterated. "The whole production of labor is due to society," meaning in this case, of course, brain labor which is accepted by the socialist as an essential component of labor as a whole.

The program demands that the means of production should be transformed into common property of society which has been done with books in the libraries, and the distribution of the brain laborers' work is made equitable, according to the expenditure of effort made by the laborer himself. Since there is no material reward evident, all this has been done almost unknown to the library worker as well as to the theorist or agitator outside of the library, and far from arousing fears on the part of the conservatives, has been encouraged by them. But this is not the end of the matter. Thru libraries, individuals have been encouraged to purchase their own books, that is, the tools of their trade. The publishers recognize this fact, and librarians have commented on it. The result will be a larger and better individualism, due to the existence of this socialistic agency, and if the library is in the forefront of social movements, then it is possible to judge from this example that the fears of the deadening effects of socialism upon individuals will not be realized, but that socialism will be a stage in a development of individualism.

Another address which was inspiring and informing, sound and logical, was that presented by Rev J. V. Moldenhawer, trustee of the Albany library. This was a presentation of conditions in the world today and the personal and political obligations rising in front of every sane person to do the right thing, presented in a very gripping fashion. Rev Moldenhawer laid the blame for the present unsettled, deplorable condition of the world on narrowness of vision, selfishness of both individuals and countries and inability to think straight thru any subject. He deplored the moral cowardice that refuses acknowledgment of mistakes and the pledge of helpfulness or the part of worthy people today.

Dr. Moldenhawer pointed out that libraries as custodians of the fruit of in-

tellectual endeavors, were in a position to be of incalculable assistance.

Other notable addresses were those of Dr James Sullivan, former state historian and present commissioner for Secondary education, New York, who spoke on the Library and history. His presentation was that of a school man who only occasionally came over into the domain of the library; Peter Nelson, executive secretary, New York state historical society, stressed the library's part in the coming one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the American Revolution, and urged that the library take its place and part in making this a worthy celebration of a notable event in the world's history. The New York state historical association has programs and material suitable for use which may be had free of charge.

A very interesting discussion of the writing of the short story was presented by Julian Kilman, Buffalo, immigration officer, but whose avocation is that of a short story-writer. Mr Kilman believes that the library should include in its reading rooms more freely the wholesome, so-called popular type of short-story magazine.

On Thursday morning, a conference of New York state librarians on State relations was held under the chairmanship of Paul M. Paine, Syracuse. W. F. Yust, Rochester, reviewed state legislation for the year in New York, calling attention to the law relating to volunteer certification and failure of the bill for proposed subvention. Miss Hodges, Rochester, tried to make plain the laws of the state relating to retirement of officers and employees in the state's civil service. The retirement law makes membership of state, county and city employees optional up to a certain time but requires the approval of the governing body of the county or city to its employees' taking advantage of it. The employees' pension allowance fund consists of an allowance by the state, county or city supplemented by contributions from the employees according to age and groups.

Asa Wynkoop, head of the Public Libraries section, New York state library, was presented with the first certificate issued by that state. A council made up of Walter L. Brown, Buffalo, Caroline M. Underhill, Utica, William F. Yust, Rochester, Willard Austen, Ithaca, and E. H. Anderson, New York, has been given power by the regents to name a committee to have charge of issuing certificates. This committee as appointed, is made up of the following: J. D. Ibbotson, Ithaca, Esther Johnson, New York, and W. R. Watson, Albany.

The architects were recognized on the program and the address of Henry J. Carlson of Coolidge & Carlson, Boston, gave a very interesting outline of the architect's idea of the relations between the building committee of the library, the architect and librarian. Mr Carlson pointed out the necessity of the site being related to the city's plans in planning for the building. He advised against an excess of exterior, lavish stairways and magnificent rooms for which the needs of the library must be sacrificed. The question of housing books, like a lot of other questions of the day, must move with the times. This might be judged by examples which have come down of buildings with thick walls and poky insides. The kind and size of the building depends on the needs of the library and the size of the city. It is necessary to have the central building conveniently located as the main library is more largely used by suburbanites. Mr. Carlson spoke especially of the library at Springfield, Mass., because of its favorable location. The ideal spot for a library building is at the end of a street opposite the public square and covering at least a quarter of a block. The library site should, if possible, belong to the civic center because people will not walk any distance for books. A balanced design is of importance in a community center. Rented quarters in retail districts are better than owning a building there because of the possible change in library use. Planning for the future must have a large share in any expensive building.

Russell F. Whitehead, editor of *White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs*, conferred with those present on Friday afternoon as he could not remain for the meeting in the evening.

Mr Root presented an outline for the proposed correspondence school, prefacing his plea with opinions of Dr Harper and Dr Tufts, of the University of Chicago, and "an eminent scholar and college man," that learning may be obtained thru correspondence study. He announced that the work would be in charge of Forrest B. Spaulding, the teaching to be done by himself, Martha Wilson of Springfield, Ill., Joseph L. Wheeler of Youngstown, Ohio, and others.

Miss Ahern observed that the statement sent out in a library periodical was in error in saying that the late Mary Wright Plummer was an advocate of teaching library service by correspondence. On the contrary, not only in her expressions of personal opinion, but in her carefully prepared report to the A. L. A., in 1903, Miss Plummer was clearly against such a proposal. That report was strongly endorsed by the A. L. A. Dr Root responded that since the report was 20 years old, it need not enter into the present discussion.

College librarians

A conference of Eastern college librarians was held on Friday under the direction of William N. C. Carlton, librarian, Williams college. The main topic for discussion was the relation of the librarian to the faculty thru the faculty library committee, library council or other agencies. After a few introductory remarks in which he showed the great difference between getting a job and having opportunity to serve the public, Mr Carlton asked those present to give statements concerning the given topic in their own various libraries. Prof Root of Oberlin college stated that they have a library committee, of which he is a member, which decides changes, alterations or extension of quarters, makes up and approves the budget, confirms appointments in the li-

brary and in general is concerned with questions relating to the library and its organization. There are two meetings a year of this committee. His title of professor comes thru his teaching. Yale university library is represented on the university council by its librarian where he has opportunity to present any feature which seems to call for discussion by other members of the faculty. The librarian, as such, has the rank of professor and the assistant librarian that of assistant-professor, with all the duties and privileges accruing thereto. At Brown university, the librarian is *ex-officio* member of the university faculty.

General discussion by various librarians present brought out the fact that the personality of the librarian, with an imagination which can penetrate the needs, restrictions and opportunities of both departments and the library, adds to the force of the library as power on the faculty. Discussion developed an instance where women members of standing on the library staff were not admitted either to rank or to meetings of the rest of the faculty. Yale university admits women to advancement in rank but does not admit them to the council. Reference was made to several institutions of higher learning in the West where women are admitted to both council and rank but thus far this custom does not prevail in the East.

The report of the School libraries committee, Sabra Vought, chairman, gave a recent ruling of the regents in regard to librarians for school districts. This ruling, the result of recommendations made by the Associated Academic principals, requires from school districts having 200 children and over a teacher in charge of the library or a librarian who has had at least the minimum amount of library training. In the lowest grade this means at least six weeks at an approved summer school. The amount of training is increased with the size of the district as is also the amount of time which is to be devoted each week to the actual operation of the school library. The ruling goes into effect not later than September 1, 1925.

Notes

A number of members from New York state were fortunate in that they had with them autos of more or less dimensions. With these they were very generous in inviting others to explore the beautiful Adirondack country surrounding the meeting place and more than one outsider went home with a warm thrill of pleasure not only because of the kindness received but because of a new picture of beauty and extent of this part of their country. Mr and Mrs H. W. Wilson were particularly kind in this regard, filling their large touring car with guests twice a day and at night taking with them as many of those going in their direction as would fit in the car.

The golf links of the Arcady club in the neighborhood were offered to the visitors and every day that was suitable saw a number accept the invitation, all the way from the veteran golfer, Dr Hill of Brooklyn, down to the editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES who had a lesson in caddying from Miss Ruckteshler of Norwich and Miss Eastwood of Albany. Tennis also lured a number and the attractive waves of Lake George witnessed the plunging and joy of action of various forms that at other times assumed the dignity of library service.

The annual honors bestowed on those who were acclaimed the most progressive librarian in their classes were definitely cared for by committees in charge though the proceedings were less notable than in former years owing to the great number of persons present and also to library school dinners and entertainments of other associations which were scheduled for that evening.

A "community sing" was indulged in though it would be hard to be enthusiastic, even tolerant in some instances, of the songs that were offered. A recent article in the *Bookman* concerning swearing and other exclamations and expletives might be read with advantage by the compilers of the Book of Ballads.

The Library Employees union, New York City, represented by Marcella Malone and her sister, Maude J. Ma-

lone, presented mimeographed copies of resolutions and statements relating to their cause.

Two evenings of especial delight were those given over to dramatic performances by the Drama players of the New York and Brooklyn public libraries. The staff of the Brooklyn public library also furnished vocalists who, in presenting solos and music, achieved the heartiest commendation and gave much pleasure to their listeners.

During the year the libraries were requested to contribute duplicates of worthwhile books and the committee in charge of providing "funds for scholarships" asked eminent authors to autograph copies of their works and contribute letters from noted persons as a means of raising funds for the purpose named. The duplicates were displayed on tables, for sale at a nominal price, while the autographed books were disposed of at two auctions. It would be hard for a man from Mars suddenly set down in the midst of the auctioning to believe that these were really librarians as over and over the books went hurtling thru the air between the auctioneer and the purchaser and as often were returned by the latter as he was prompted by a motive not set down in library school rules. Quite a goodly sum of money was collected by the sale and it may be the end justified the means.

The following officers were elected: President, John A. Lowe, Brooklyn public library; vice-president, Mildred Pope, State library extension division, Albany; secretary, Ettie C. Hedges, East Hampton free library; treasurer, Carl L. Cannon, New York public library.

Free Distribution

A number of bound volumes of magazines are free to any public or school library desiring them for cost of transportation. These include *Harper's Weekly*, *Congressional Globe*, *Harper's Monthly*, *Scribner's*, *Century*, *Galaxy*, *Appleton*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *St. Nicholas* and *Packard's Monthly*, 1869.

Direct all inquiries to Jane Morey, Sedalia, Mo.

Wisconsin Library Conference

The third summer library conference conducted by the Wisconsin free library commission was held at Madison during the two weeks, July 16-28. The foremost purpose of the meeting planned for this year was to bring to the librarians present a fresh interpretation of their part in the life of the community, to inspire vigorous action in playing this part effectively, and to demonstrate knowledge of books and their use as fundamental—the substructure of any worthwhile effort.

The chief work of the conference was organized in three courses of lectures in the mornings, and in round-table discussions in the afternoons. The subjects of the morning courses were Social economics and the library, Books, their use and selection, and Administration problems. Here was enlisted the expert assistance, most cordially rendered, of many members of the University faculty for lectures in their own special fields. All lectures throughout the morning courses were accompanied by *syllabi* and lists of selected books for reading or future reference, both of which were mimeographed and distributed to all in attendance before each meeting.

The planning of the program* had been going on for many months. The usual summer sessions conducted by the Library school were given up for this year, and the faculty under the leadership of Miss Hazeltine as chairman was in immediate charge of the organization of the work of the conference. Because of the careful planning the whole program, concentrated and intensive though it was, was carried through without a hitch. Headquarters were at the Library school, and all general meetings were held in the auditorium through the courtesy of the Madison free library. Here the conference was welcomed at its first evening meeting by President Birge of the university.

The choice of content of the morning courses and the high grade of in-

*See P. L. 28: 310, 390.

struction offered brought this work within the standards of university requirements, and the project of a credit basis for this work upon approved conditions was taken up with the university authorities. By action of the Executive committee of the College of letters and science it was voted that two course credits might be granted to students electing the morning work upon this basis, doing the required outside reading and problems and passing a final examination. Eight students took this work in this way, all being either university graduates or entitled to advanced standing.

Exhibits were favorably located in well lighted rooms in the Vocational school just across the street from the library school. Exhibits were planned to correlate with the program and were invited with that in mind. Selected books for school libraries and children's books, Library Bureau library supplies and furnishings, building plans, publicity material, binding work, the A. L. A.'s County exhibit, were all on display here. The Democrat Printing Company prepared a special exhibit at its own plant near by. At the Library school, book exhibits were shown illustrating the material of each lecture and changed daily as the subjects covered were developed. Gaylord Brothers assigned their field librarian, Miss Ruth MacNeil, to this meeting for the full two weeks. She demonstrated the Toronto method of book repair to interested groups daily.

Entertainment features in the evenings, including an exhibition of marionettes, a dramatic reading, an author's reading by Professor William Ellery Leonard from his play, *Red Bird*, and from some of his various poems, the Devereux players at the university open air theater, and an all-conference picnic on the first Saturday afternoon, held at Turvillwood upon the invitation of Mrs Thwaits and Miss Turvill, all served to relieve the tension of the rather strenuous all-day program.

The total registration of the conference was 246, of which 151 were from

Wisconsin, 23 from Illinois, and 14 from Indiana. In all, 19 states were represented as well as China and Denmark. This wide spread attendance brought in a wealth of varied experience which made the round-table discussions of special value.

The whole conference was felt to be a most successful venture, and unique in its combination of organized instructional work and the full opportunity for "conference and discussion" offered by a gathering of active library workers of varied experience from many states.

C. B. L.

Library Meetings

Chautauqua—The second conference held under the auspices of the Chautauqua school for librarians was held, August 1-4, with that large attendance which Chautauqua, as an ideal place for such a gathering, always entices.

A series of lectures on *Voices of liberty in English poetry* being given that week by Dr J. Duncan Spaeth of Princeton university was incorporated as a part of the program. Dr Spaeth's subjects were—Byron, the voice of revolt; Shelley, the voice of idealism; Whitman, the voice of democracy.

Miss Grace E. Davis, Terre Haute, Ind., president of the Alumnae association, presided at the formal opening. Dr W. G. Spencer, dean of faculties, gave the address of welcome. In responding, Miss Davis introduced Prof E. C. Grover of Glen Ridge, N. J., who delivered a helpful address on *Psychology and its relation to the library*. He stressed the opportunity of the library to raise the tone of the community by stimulating a desire for better reading.

At the afternoon meeting, Miss Dorcas Fellows, Albany, gave an interesting talk on the *Making and makers of the Decimal Classification*. Another interesting talk was given by Dr S. C. Schmucker, West Chester, Pa., on *The Patron's side of the loan desk*. The things Dr Schmucker wishes to see at the loan desk are lists of reviews of new books, open shelves and a friendly but not officious attitude on the part of

the librarian. Two interesting talks followed, Behind the desk in a college library, by Edith Carpenter, St. Lawrence university library, and Behind the desk in a public library, by Ola Boling, Clinton, Ind.

Another interesting session was that given over to the discussion of books, in charge of Mary E. Downey. Books in the Chautauqua home reading course, '23-'24, and *Review of Reviews*, the current event periodical in the course, were reviewed by students of the library school.

On Friday, a delightful feature of the program was the reading of *Pickwick Papers* by Prof S. H. Clark, University of Chicago.

Under the direction of Elizabeth D. Meriwether, Winter Park, Fla., a Study of leading newspapers and periodicals was presented by Edna M. Hull, library school faculty.

The *International Book Review* of the *Literary Digest* was discussed by Abby F. Hull, Winsted, Conn. Ola Boling, Clinton, Ind., discussed the *Christian Century*, pointing out its merits as a liberal, non-sectarian periodical. These reviews were followed by an informal talk by Prof Clark on What the library can do for community drama. Prof Clark spoke particularly of the value of reading aloud in the home, the suitability of drama for this purpose, and the service librarians can render in encouraging the reading of drama.

On Saturday afternoon, departmental meetings were held and various topics presented. Leota Price, Paris, Illinois, gave the following as the "six best sellers" of public documents: Measurement for household; 1,000 good books for children; Handbook for campers in the National forest of California; Farm and home mechanics; Fifty common birds of farm and orchard; Social games, plays, marches, old folk-dances and rhythmic movement. All of these may be obtained thru the Superintendent of documents, Washington.

Children's work was presented by Rachel Schenk, New Philadelphia, Ohio. Grace Fifield told of the work done in the St. Paul jail by the library and pointed out the need of more work of this kind, emphasizing the appreciation of those for whom such work is done.

"Short cuts," led by Grace E. Davids, Terre Haute, Ind., included placing of the patron's telephone number after the address on the registration card, borrower's number, with date, on date slip and a book placed by the telephone to note telephone renewals which may be attended to later.

Problems of the high school library were discussed under the direction of Mildred E. Brown, Ashtabula, Ohio.

There were 18 in attendance at the College library section where informal and general discussion covered reserves, book selection and periodicals.

In the County library section, methods of work and the expense connected with it made an interesting session. Katherine Pierce, Visalia, California, gave some interesting personal experiences in her county work in that state. Dorothy Keefe, Sandusky, Ohio, stated that with the exception of one branch, a large proportion of fiction is read in that county. Next comes biography and travel. Few books on agriculture are called for or used when sent out thru the county. Much discussion showed that there is increasing interest in county library work.

A pleasant "get-together" meeting of trustees, under the leadership of Mrs H. W. Lukins, Streator, Ill., discussed questions pertaining to the administration of libraries.

The annual dinner was a most delightful event. Class and school songs were executed with enthusiasm and in a spirit of love and loyalty to the school. Of the 86 persons present at the dinner, 72 were students of the library school. Toasts, reminiscences and letters from absent members gave much pleasure.

Florida—The fifth annual meeting of the Florida library association will be held in St. Petersburg in April, 1924. Following are the officers for the year: President, Cora Miltimore, Gainesville; first vice-president, Gertrude C. Mann, Deland; second vice-president, Elroy McKendree Avery, New Port Richey; secretary, Emma Moore Williams, St. Petersburg; treasurer, J. F. Marron, Jacksonville.

Massachusetts—The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Western Massachusetts library club was held at Amherst, 75 persons being present, representing 29 different libraries in the western part of the state.

Among the things discussed were the transactions of the A. L. A. at Hot Springs. Miss Alice Blanchard of the Hampshire Bookshop, Northampton, captured her audience with her discussion of Buying children's books. Her point of view was two-fold, as a librarian and as a bookseller. Miss Blanchard impressed the librarians with the service the Hampshire Bookshop is willing to give to individuals, not only at the store but by mail.

Mr Hussey of Library Bureau put the club up-to-date with regard to all kinds of library buildings and equipment. He entertained not only by his talk but by effective hand drawings and plans.

Dr Joseph T. Reilly, Ware, presented his idea of the 10 greatest short stories in English. His presentation, though short, was interesting, convincing and showed literary skill. Dr Reilly is a delightful story-teller as well as a lecturer.

Mr Huntting of the H. R. Huntting Company, Springfield, showed how effectively libraries and booksellers can cooperate to get better results. He spoke of the latest problems of the bookseller and publisher.

A very happy talk by Dr Walker on Noah Webster was much enjoyed.

Suitable resolutions were passed on the death of an esteemed member of the club, Miss Lucy Richmond, Springfield.

The following officers were elected:

President, Alice K. Moore, City library, Springfield; vice-presidents, Anne M. Davies, Public library, Holyoke, and Alice A. Blanchard, Hampshire Bookshop, Northampton; secretary, Emma J. Parsons, Public library, Easthampton; treasurer, Myra L. Boynton, Forbes library, Northampton; recorder, Lucy Lamb, City library, Springfield.

Massachusetts—The annual meeting of the Massachusetts library club was held at North Scituate in June.

The first program opened with a symposium on library work among the foreign born, conducted by Edna Phillips, director of work with foreigners in the Massachusetts department of education. Alice Gale Worthen, Union Square branch, Somerville, said that over 60,000 young people made use of the children's rooms alone during the course of a year, and that there has been no trouble with discipline. Miss Worthen frequently serves as adviser to her visitors and is often called on to reconcile difficulties thru racial differences. Her strongest argument is that "all are just plain Americans." She stated that the younger children are well trained in the public schools but great concern is felt for their older brothers and sisters who are in America but not of it. Miss Worthen spoke most glowingly of the many immigrants who are true to American ideals and pointed out America's duty to utilize the enthusiasm of her "Americans of tomorrow" by preserving their belief in American ideals thru personal experience.

Esther Johnston, New York public library, in speaking on Library contacts in New York's lower East side, said that the demands at the branch in this neighborhood had to do with books rather than with personal needs of the people. Russian Jews predominate in the neighborhood. They are not particularly attached to any country but they come with a literary heritage. They come not so much from the cities as from the small towns and

farms of Russia. While many of them cannot read, some have a knowledge of Hebrew and a small cosmopolitan intellectual group are well informed. It is a constant adventure to know what these people are bringing intellectually. A shabbily dressed man wanted Kant's Critique which he was prepared to read in English, Russian, German or French. Yiddish as a means of communication should be recognized. Translations now available in Yiddish include titles as divergent as *Thais* and *Huckleberry Finn*. Very few books descriptive of American life are accessible. The Russian immigrant learns English very quickly and books important for content are needed to supplement books of the primer type.

Maud B. Colcord, librarian, Loring reading room, Plymouth Cordage Company, spoke of effects on the community of library work with foreigners. The Plymouth Cordage Company, since its establishment in 1894, has been the flow of many races. In their order they are English, Scotch, Irish, Swedish, German, French, Italian and Portuguese. The result is a cosmopolitan population. A large proportion of the people have their own homes and this company encourages home-owning in a practical way.

Mrs Marguerite Reid Wetmore, foreign department, Public library, Providence, pointed out the fallacy in the theory of the great American melting pot, the failure hitherto to assimilate immigrants and the dawning realization by everybody concerned that the present immigration must be treated more intelligently than that of pre-war days. Mrs Wetmore showed that Congress has enacted no constructive legislation apart from the three per cent law which will probably be an issue in the next campaign. She expressed the belief that further admission of aliens should wait upon the assimilation of those already here. The "haven of refuge" plea is sentimental and the argument of the need for cheap labor makes profit for the few at the expense of the many. Two

solutions are open to capitalists, seasonable labor and slowing up of production. The imperative primal duty is to train the newcomer in the standards of living in America, to improve housing conditions and offer instructions in matters of health and sanitation. The teaching of English is another essential, the most concrete beginning which can be made in breaking down the barriers between alien groups and our native born. The value of the educated citizen was emphasized and it was strongly urged that aliens be admitted to citizenship with caution. The title of Mrs Wetmore's paper was, *Wanted: A policy*. She offered a program as follows:

- 1) The selection of the best obtainable group in the country to draw up an immigration platform which will at least settle the following points:
 - a) The number to be admitted.
 - b) How to select the best in quality.
 - c) How to house them properly.
- 2) The outline of a method for training the adult alien in American standards of living, in learning English and in American ideals of government.
- 3) The duty of everyone to help secure adequate financial support for the platform adopted.
- 4) The responsibility of every individual to adopt one foreign person into his sphere of influence.

Katharine P. Loring gave an entertaining address on *Authors I have known*, reminiscing of a number of widely known writers, covering important periods in American literature.

A round-table on library topics on Saturday morning was conducted by June R. Donnelly. The consensus of opinion of the librarians present was that duplicate pay collections are worth-while. Miss Johnson of Chelsea spoke favorably of the conference plan for conducting a Christmas exhibit and book sale. Miss Bisbee of Lynn made a plea for library reports in condensed, readable form. Miss Lamprey of North Easton reported on a method for treating library bindings with saddle soap which restores the quality of the leather. After the back has been shellacked the volume can be easily lettered.

A report on library subscriptions for the Louvain fund showed receipts from 136 Massachusetts libraries, amounting to \$1425.

Taking the library to the school, as it is done in the Public library, St. Louis, was presented by Dorothy Kohl. The needs are supplied by furnishing class room libraries and by school deposits.

The topic, The School library and the teacher, brought out reference to the difficulty frequently encountered in securing coöperation of teachers.

In discussing the plan for a correspondence school to be financed by Gaylord Brothers, presented by Forrest B. Spaulding, Miss Donnelly said that many things might be taught in this way but she was unwilling to say that she believed it desirable. A special course for general workers with experience would be of greater service than a course for beginners.

On Saturday evening, Henry Turner Bailey, director of the Cleveland school of art, discussed The Library and the world of art. Mr Bailey said the world of art is not to be thought of narrowly as a realm of painting. The world of nature is a material thing created by God; the world of art an immaterial thing created by man. The world of the spirit is constantly going on and is continually being enlarged. One may travel for months on the Nile but never see the river of Anthony and Cleopatra. To visualize this one must read the drama. The constructive artist will help one to gain entrance. The entrance is not only thru literature but thru the canvasses of the great painters. One may enter also thru music. Mr Bailey gave concrete examples of those who had entered the spiritual world thru the possession of special talents. The artist can take an object out of the physical world and make it a symbol of the spiritual. The more one is immersed in the industrial world, the more necessary it is to escape into the region of the spiritual.

Where there is no art museum the library must furnish a means of access

—pictures of the immortal architecture of the world, music, good story telling, authors' readings, books and fine bindings.

William D. Goddard, librarian, Deborah Cook Sayles library, Pawtucket, gave a dramatic reading of the Book of Job, with musical enforcement.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Edward H. Redstone; vice-presidents, June R. Donnelly, Harold A. Wooster, E. Louise Jones; treasurer, George H. Evans; secretary, Mrs Bertha V. Hartzell; recorder, Galen W. Hill; delegate to the A. L. A., Edward H. Redstone.

Pennsylvania—At the last meeting for the season of the Pennsylvania library club, the following officers were elected: President, Clinton Rogers Woodruff; first vice-president, Dr Henry Leffman; second vice-president, Edith M. Bache; secretary, Martha Lee Coplin.

Dr Rosenbach, speaker of the evening, gave an address on Rare books and illustrated his talk by extremely interesting examples. Among the books shown were: Gutenberg edition of the Bible, 1453-1455; first edition of Chaucer's Canterbury tales, 1478; the famous chronicle of Hollingshead, the book from which Shakespeare got the plots for most of his plays; first folio edition of Shakespeare's plays, published in London in 1623; first edition of Milton's Paradise lost, 1667; first edition of Bunyan's Pilgrim's progress, 1678; first editions of Robinson Crusoe, 1719, and Gulliver's travels, 1726. Dr Rosenbach also showed some very interesting autographed volumes which had been presented to friends by the authors.

There were nearly 150 persons present at the meeting.

MARTHA LEE COPLIN,
Secretary.

Rhode Island—The Rhode Island library association held its annual meeting in the Blackstone Valley, the morning and afternoon sessions being held at St. John's parish house, Ash-

ton, and the evening session at the Deborah Cook Sayles public library, Pawtucket.

Samuel H. Ranck, librarian, Grand Rapids, Mich., gave an address, on Making the community conscious of its library. He said that sense of ownership invariably carries with it a sense of responsibility. The library must use every legitimate means to keep itself before the public and it must give intelligent, whole-hearted and comprehensive service. Lantern slides showing methods used to impress the library of Grand Rapids on the community illustrated Mr Ranck's address.

At the evening session, W. D. Goddard, librarian, Deborah Cook Sayles library, read Coleridge's Ancient mariner, with Dore illustrations thrown on the screen.

A resolution was adopted in favor of biennial instead of annual meetings of the A. L. A. and of having regional meetings in alternate years, requesting the council of the A. L. A. to take such constitutional action as would permit the inauguration of this plan for 1927, the first year of the second half century of the association. It was further resolved that the sentiment of the Rhode Island library association was in favor of regional organization for that section, including the New England states, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Officers were elected as follows:

President, Francis K. W. Drury, Brown university library, Providence; first vice-president, Basil B. Wood, Westerly public library; second vice-president, Clarence E. Sherman, Providence public library; recording secretary, Edna Thayer, Providence public library; corresponding secretary, Margaret Stillwell, Ann Mary Brown library, Providence; treasurer, Laurence M. Shaw, Providence public library; executive committee, George L. Hinckley, Redwood library, Newport; Mrs. Frederick E. Shaw, Elmwood public library, Providence, and Grace F. Leonard, Providence Athenaeum.

Coming Meetings

The twenty-second annual meeting of the Kansas library association will be held at Iola, October 9-12.

The thirty-second annual meeting of the Wisconsin library association will be held at Fond du Lac, October 8-10.

The Indiana library association will hold its annual meeting at West Baden, October 10-12.

The meeting of the Ohio library association scheduled for October 16-18, at Canton, has been postponed until October 23-25.

The Iowa library association will hold its annual meeting for 1923 at Fort Dodge, October 9-11. Dr Henry Seidel Canby, editor of the *Literary Review* of the *New York Evening Post*, will be one of the speakers.

The Virginia library association will hold its annual meeting in Richmond, November 27-28.

In the old days it was a sacred obligation on the part of the library to print dictionary catalogs of the books in the library. We had a good card catalog which the public was never allowed to use and with which the young and inexperienced attendants were never encouraged to meddle. A method of keeping account of visitors in the reading room was in use up to 1880 when it was discontinued. There was a tin box with two compartments. One was filled with navy beans and as the people came in we counted them by putting a corresponding number of beans in the empty compartment. One night the boy on duty forgot to put the lid on the box and a rat ate the beans. As the boy had also forgotten to count them, the statistics were inaccurate for that day, and the method was abandoned—*Reminiscences of the early days.* Eliza G. Browning.

Character must stand behind and back up everything—the sermon, the poem, the picture, the play. None of them in worth a straw without it.—
J. G. Holland.

Interesting Things in Print

A pocket-size leaflet issued by the Free library of Stockton and San Joaquin county, Cal., contains "information for users." The leaflet looks inviting.

The H. R. Hunting Company, Springfield, Mass., has sent out a list of 50 new titles in reprints of Grosset & Dunlap which may be had in the Hunting library binding.

An unusually interesting and helpful discussion of library work with children in smaller libraries by Anna Gertrude Hall appeared sometime ago in the *Bulletin* of the Massachusetts library club. The article was reprinted in the Vermont *Bulletin* of September.

The semi-centennial celebration of the invention and manufacture of the first typewriting machine was held at Ilion, N. Y., September 12. The Story of the typewriter, prepared and issued by the Herkimer County historical society, New York, is an interesting booklet which many libraries can use.

"Statistics of Public Libraries of Illinois, 1922," has been issued by the Illinois state library. These statistics cover receipts, expenditures, circulation, etc., of the public libraries of the state together with certain statistics arranged according to the population of the United States census, 1920, beginning with Chicago.

Librarians or training class instructors will find a valuable help in the reading list on Loan work recently compiled by Miss Zaidee Brown. A number of special problems, such as censorship, discipline, pay collections, reserves, etc., are covered. These lists may be had for 10 cents each, or for 5 cents in quantities of five or more, from the H. W. Wilson Co.

A set of 12 pictorial post cards published by the Birmingham public library, England, has recently been received. The library will continue these publications from time to time. The present set contains exterior and interior views of the Birmingham public library and a number of other interesting prints of title pages

of rare and unique books among the library's collection. The cards are for sale at one penny each.

A collection of songs of Jewish life, arranged by Henry and Constance Gideon as a "message to music lovers," has been issued by the Arthur P. Schmidt Company, Boston, under the title, "From the cradle to the chuppe." Those competent to speak of the collection are enthusiastic in its praise. The songs deal with various phases of Jewish life and are set to the quaint and beautiful music for which the Gideons are noted.

Two new holidays lists have been issued by the H. W. Wilson Company, both being the work of the Carnegie library school association. One of them, Christmas in poetry, is in its second series but the collection of poems and carols is entirely different from the collection in the first edition. The other collection, Thanksgiving in poetry, is entirely new and extremely well chosen. In both collections the poems are printed on one side of the page so that they may be used for bulletin board work if desired.

"The Plan of the national capital," a chapter from the *Ninth Report of the Federal Commission of Fine Arts*, has recently been reprinted in a handsomely illustrated booklet. This is a clear and concise account of the present and proposed development of the building and park system of Washington and would be a valuable addition to many libraries. The booklet may be secured from the Superintendent of documents for 20 cents a copy.

An illustrated monthly review will be published by the American library in Paris under the title, *Ex Libris*. "The primary purpose of this review is to make American and English books better known on the continent of Europe. With this in view, it will publish reviews and notes on current publications . . . and on intellectual relations between Europe and the Anglo-Saxon world." No. 1, v. 1 has been

issued, and "copies of the bulletin will be sent to any library which desires it."

A recent issue of the Washington (D. C.) *Sunday Star*, contains an article by Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., president of the District of Columbia library association, on the development of library positions and adequate pay. The material is presented in most attractive form and ought to do good work in attracting to the library profession those college-bred men and women who are as yet undecided as to their life vocation. Undoubtedly Mr Hyde's article will awaken interest in the national program for increased efficiency in library service.

An attractive 18x25 poster illustrating Haughton's Foot-ball and how to watch it has recently been prepared by the Marshall Jones Company, Boston. Last Fall a number of libraries made use of this poster on their bulletin boards with gratifying results. Another poster in preparation for the American Institute of Architects, and one which may be used in the library's art department, is the "Significance of the fine arts."

Any library wishing to make use of these posters may secure them on request from the Marshall Jones Company, 212 Summer Street, Boston.

The library of the Bureau of railway economics, Washington, D. C., has issued a list of references, chronologically arranged, on the proposed consolidation of railroads. A tremendous amount of information is included in the 28 pages of mimeographed material. This would be a handy list from which to choose references for communities which might be interested in the conduct of railroads or even from which to choose bait which, if adroitly put into the hands of readers, might make the general public more intelligent about the very important element in American life known as "the railroads."

A new edition of Catalog and review of plays for amateurs has been issued by the Loyola University Press, Chicago. This list was compiled by Miss Cecilia M. Young, urged by her own

needs as a dramatic director for plays that offend neither ethics nor aesthetics.

The plays are chosen for stage performance and many of them are old favorites. The list is classified by country, class, subject, period and form. Valuable features are the analyses or explanations accompanying the entries, with publishers and prices of each play.

A recent pamphlet on School library service, by Anne T. Eaton, has been issued by the American Library Association.

School library activities will be advanced by following many of the helpful suggestions of this 44-page pamphlet which covers the planning and equipment of library rooms, the selection of the librarian and the operation of the library in the elementary, junior high or high school.

The author is librarian of the Lincoln school, Teachers college, New York City, which is said to have one of the best school libraries in the country.

Standards for school library development adopted by the A. L. A. and by the Library department of the N. E. A. are briefly stated on the last page of the pamphlet.

The *Loose-Leaf Annual* for 1922 has been issued by the *World Book*, a prime favorite with librarians generally. The *Annual* is a review of the chief events and matters of interest that belong to the year 1922. It includes information on every variety of subject and must prove to be of incalculable value to school libraries and, indeed, to every reference desk.

In addition to the *Annual*, the publishers issue a *Service Bulletin* for each month in the year, giving interesting topics for consideration in that month, all dealt with in the *World Book* itself, and with classified questions on a variety of subjects calculated to interest readers of every degree.

One can but regret that the *Annual* is not available to any one who wants it as

its timeliness, small size, and interesting presentations would be of inestimable value to every one.

Miss Edna Phillips, in charge of work with foreigners, Massachusetts division of public libraries, has compiled a list of library aids in naturalization work. The compilation covers an extensive review and is divided into six departments: 1) domestic affairs, for immigrant women; 2) aids for the foreigner in industry; 3) civics and history; 4) books for the beginner in learning English; 5) stories in primer form but useful for adults; 6) books of interest to the Americanization worker.

Miss Phillips acknowledges, among the valuable suggestions from many sources as to titles to be included in each of the sections, the special service rendered by Charles M. Herlihy, supervisor of Adult alien education, Massachusetts division of university extension.

Since all libraries of any size have opportunity for usefulness in introducing to the foreign citizens of the community the helpfulness of reading, this list will be of great value in giving information as to what books will be helpful.

Book Notes

That public worship can and must be made a major fine art is the theme of "Art and Religion," a recent book by Von Ogden Vogt (Yale University Press). A keen desire to know American churches from the standpoint of art led the author to make exhaustive study of the churches of America and Canada—their architecture, worship, organization, ideas and leadership—this study resulting in a most notable contribution not only to the literature of the church but also to the literature of philosophic ethics.

Those who have sojourned in France—and those who have not—will be entertained by reading *Vistas*, a book recently issued and written by Walter C.

Stevens. The book is not more than half serious, tho not intended at all to be humorous, and yet facetiously sets out observations and opinions of a traveler as he journeys thru *la belle France* but particularly thru the ever-entrancing environment of "gay Paree". The story shows no intent of reforming or criticising what the traveler sees. It records his impressions and leaves the reader interested but at liberty to make his own conclusions.

The Hospital library, by Edith Kathleen Jones of the Division of public libraries, formerly librarian of McLean hospital, Waverly, Mass., surveys the history of hospital library service, discusses problems of organization, administration, book selection for patients of different types and different ages, the medical library, books for reading aloud, and contains a classified list of over 2,000 books including fiction, non-fiction, periodicals, children's books and books for the nurses' library.

"The hospital library" answers many questions physicians and nurses in progressive hospitals everywhere are beginning to consider. The book is illustrated.

A volume which has a special value not only for history which it gives of the movement it records but because of the illuminating light thrown on the spirit of the movement recorded, is published under the title, *The Clothing workers of Chicago*, by the Chicago Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. This is a history of the movement from 1910-1922, tracing the various agreements under the principles of unionism, discipline, etc., together with such special events as the great wage arbitration, union preference, adjustments, protection, etc. Typographically the book is a credit to those who are responsible for it.

Piney Woods and its story is the title of a little volume by Laurence Jones, founder and principal of the Piney Woods Country Life school at Braxton, Miss.

This is a school whose aim is the very highest type of citizenship among negroes of Mississippi and which has the sympathetic and enthusiastic support of the best white people in the state who will be glad to see the school expand into a larger field of usefulness.

The story in the little book is the story of the building of the school, told in a very entertaining manner. The publisher, S. S. McClure, has written an introduction to the book, paying its author a high tribute of praise. "Laurence Jones is one of the safest and truest leaders of his race, a man whose counsel and advice on all racial problems is always worth-while" is the comment relating to the author of Piney Woods and its story by the press of his locality.

Prof J. E. Kirkpatrick of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, has issued a thesis under the title, *Toryism in the American college government*, in support of a change in the governance of American colleges and universities that in his judgment will be a step forward in bringing these institutions into a more scholastic, more educational form. The writer maintains that the government of the higher institutions is too largely in the hands of men who are utilitarian, in its narrow sense; whose ideas of a successful institution of any kind is size; whose aim for the colleges and universities of whose boards they are members is more ground, more buildings, more students, at the smallest outlay possible. Scholarship, attainment, scholastic leadership, are mere terms of approach to them, shells that murmur sufficiently to attract the attention of those whose purses are of a size to be interesting.

Prof Kirkpatrick's remedy for these evils is governing boards, more like those of English university boards, made up largely of faculty members alive to the real purposes and needs of the institution; of graduates whose attainments and natural endowments are distinguished for their relationship to the world of letters and scholastic affairs; whose faculties will be made up of those who are prepared to endow with scholarship, to give

to their students rather than to receive a mere living pittance.

The New D. C.

The eleventh edition of the Dewey Decimal classification has arrived, with a bill for \$8. It is said that the number 11 is unlucky—that it has the Jinx in it—so maybe we shall incur the wrath of the gods of Dewey as they are, by making any adverse comment on this book. Other librarians, however, must have felt the same disappointment that we did in opening this new edition and finding some much needed expansions conspicuous by their absence, particularly if they held the bill in one hand and had a copy of the tenth edition on a desk near by, as there is not enough additional expansion in the new edition to justify its publication.

There are a few excellent new expansions and no criticism is intended toward any contribution to human knowledge. It seems, however, that all sense of proportion of the needs of the majority of libraries has been lost in the choice of subjects for expansion. We have waited for years for one for the 150's in accordance with the development of modern psychology, and turned eagerly to that division hoping for light only to be greeted by the same old numbers and text. Sitting on a log with Dr Mark Hopkins on one end may have been an excellent school 50 years ago, or conversing with Noah Porter and James McCosh, a stimulus to the "intellect, sensibility and will" but we believe that none of these worthy gentlemen ever studied mob psychology or intelligence tests for immigrants. Their psychology was that of Dewey, and that of the present day was truly not dreamt of in their philosophy.

Again, we hoped for something for the 360's. These numbers have been so totally inadequate and the lack so conspicuous that the subject was discussed at the last annual conference of social workers and yet on this most vital subject we have nothing new offered to us. We can find where to

classify cow peas, beggar weed and New Zealand hemp, but no place for the literature on child-placing, social work in relation to physicians and nurses, restoring ex-convicts to lives of usefulness, neighborhood and community welfare, and the dozens of lines of development of present day social service.

All the 700's except architecture are weak, the worst probably being the 790's. Here is no mention of the great modern development of the play idea, recreation legislation and surveys, play festivals, country clubs, women's sports, all the various types of dramatic interests, the ramifications of the moving picture industry, etc., etc., *ad infinitum*. Unless the library has its own expansion, the golf enthusiast must hunt thru a hodge-podge of books on children's sports, athletic sports, coasting, skating, quoits, archery, croquet and lawn tennis! True, the golfer may consider hunting his book to be a form of indoor sport similar in difficulty to getting his ball from a hole or a watery grave when he takes the water-hazard and fails, but our experience is that the golfer, like the plumber, wants his books together. Some years ago the Denver public library expanded the 790's to meet its needs and we submitted a copy of our scheme to the A. L. A. committee on classification but we never heard its fate. No doubt it was considered inadequate but we use it for our own convenience while we wait for something better.

Another number we hoped in vain to see developed is 629.2. To dump into this single number everything pertaining to the automobile is promiscuous, to say the least, instead of definite. Surveying the field of the domestic animal, we can find points for the German coach horse, the water buffalo, including the bhains, mhains, arna and arni, the moonding, the karbo or karbon, the carabo, the yak, the lama and the llama (whatever the difference in the beasties may be) the alpaca, the gayal

and the gaur, but no place for the Ford flivver!

It seems to us that we have heard something about "getting goats" and we congratulate the D. C. editors on the number they have secured, particularly the Zaraibi from Egypt. Egyptian styles are quite in vogue at present and any scheme of classification without proper recognition of the large literature on the Egyptian goat would be decidedly "off" the fashion page of the Sunday supplement.

Then there is the goose! Useful animal! We learn that geese come from France, Germany, China, Africa and Australia and the land of King Tut, of course. We learn that the domestic goose of Canada is wild (who would have thought it?) and that one very exclusive member of the family hails—perhaps honks—from Sebastopol, but what would the poor classifier do with a book on a goose from Brazil? Then, there is my intelligent Airedale dog. No place for him except "pet dogs".

But returning to our mutton—we should say our goose. Collected biography of women still holds firmly to its place of dignity just one peg ahead of "eccentrics, cranks, fools, insane, etc." By the way, did any one, librarian or otherwise, ever see a book of collected biographies of fools? There is no place made for the psychology and study of the girl although there is a considerable literature on the subject. Are the girls of less importance than pigs and chickens? We use 136.78. Does some one say "obvious"? Certainly, but no more so than 136.77, the number for the boy problem. Furthermore, there is no reference to girl psychology in the index.

In history, we turn to the states of the United States, hoping for full expansions there and find most of the southeastern states, all the south central, Minnesota, all of the western and all of the Pacific states except California still awaiting geographical division. We can find where to classify books on Andorra or Gambos but not where Dewey thinks we should put

a book on Colorado Springs, so we turn to the very excellent and logical expansion made for Colorado by Mr Albert F. Carter, librarian of the State teachers college at Greeley. A copy of this scheme was sent, also, to the A. L. A. committee. Certainly, other states must have done likewise and since the editors scarcely can change boundaries or readjust counties, we see no reason why they should not accept local expansions.

Turning to religion for solace, we are troubled in mind about the institutional church, the rural church, the community church and the Sunday school. The first three subjects are lacking and for the last, we must put into one number everything about the present day Sunday school-superintendence, teaching, lessons, organization, story-telling, etc., etc. For several years we have noted the place for "prayer gage" and have asked several learned persons for light on the subject but no one knew exactly just what a prayer gage is. Leading encyclopedias were silent on the subject as were also the two leading dictionaries. We could find prayer-barrel and prayer-cloak but no gage. Finally the meaning was found in the Schaff-Herzog encyclopedia of religious knowledge and it seems to be a kind of prayer race. Well and good, but why have the obscure prayer gage and not the Holy Rollers and the Pillar of Fire, both religious organizations of considerable numbers?

The editors have the grace to apologize for their sin of omission in 658, another number for which we have waited patiently for its unfolding and for which in our humble capacity we have made a temporary expansion.

We look in vain in the index for the classification numbers for present day war reconstruction, reparations, the disabled soldier, mental tests for adults, etc., etc.

If new editions of the Dewey Decimal classification are to appear, we believe that editors should announce thru library periodicals, the A. L. A. *Bulletin* and other library publication

agencies, exactly what expansions have been made. Then librarians will know whether the new edition has any features which would make it a valuable asset to a general library. Undoubtedly the agricultural libraries of the United States and Canada will appreciate the remarkably full expansion of the 630's but they are probably fewer than one hundred, while the public, institutional and college libraries number several thousands and would rather see some other much needed expansions. At least, give us a sporting chance with our \$8!

R. R.

The New York Public Library

History of the New York public library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden foundations. Harry Miller Lydenberg, 1923.

In this handsome and dignified volume Mr Lydenberg has not only made a highly valuable contribution to the history of American librarianship, but has proven himself to be a skilled historian by imparting qualities of high readableness and human interest to the long chronicle of the growth of our greatest American public library. Any potential reader who allows the ponderous appearance of this weighty tome to deter him from examining its contents will deprive himself of some pleasureable hours and will lose the opportunity of becoming acquainted with an important episode in American cultural history. The separate chapters were first printed in the quarterly *Bulletin* of the New York public library at intervals covering several years. They are now collected into a book of 543 pages published by the Printing division of the library in a style and typographical good taste that are altogether excellent.

We are introduced in the first chapter to old John Jacob Astor who for many years before his death in 1848 entertained a not very well defined desire to devote some of his wealth to a public benefaction. It appears that the old gentleman really wanted nothing quite so much as to erect a great monument to George Washington—and nothing very

much less than to found a library. To him entered one Joseph G. Cogswell, formerly an assistant in the Harvard library and then engaged as a private tutor in the family of Samuel Ward in New York. Cogswell promptly made up his own mind that the Astor money should go to endow a free library and the record of his persistence and the methods he employed in converting the aged founder of the Astor fortunes to this idea, as compiled from letters of Cogswell to Boston friends, brings to mind inevitably the picture of the serpent with glittering eye and its helpless quarry vainly struggling to escape. For over ten years the campaign was waged, Mr Astor first consenting, then postponing, then changing his mind and adding another codicil to his will. At length Cogswell gained the day, having meanwhile made himself so indispensable that the old man begged him to come and live with him. In 1842 Cogswell wrote that he had been guaranteed the librarianship and that Mr Astor had "got together architects, masons, contractors, etc., but just as all seemed to be going rightly he got into one of his nervous fits and as yet I have not been able to bring him back to the work again." It was not until six years later, after Mr Astor's death, that the organization of the library really began. The endowment amounted to \$400,000, then a munificent sum, and among the first trustees were Washington Irving and Fitz-Green Halleck. Succeeding generations of Astors added to the original sum and kept up a continuous interest in the welfare of the institution. To Joseph Green Cogswell, however, belongs the credit of securing for New York City its first great public library which, under his devoted and capable administration, soon grew to great proportions and achieved international fame.

The second great New York library was the gift of the methodical and pious James Lenox, a wealthy merchant who died a bachelor in 1880, the last of his line. For years he was a lavish though shrewd patron of the book marts, and it is told of him that he was in the habit of piling up his

purchases in neat layers reaching from floor to ceiling in a room of his house until there was only space left to close the door, whereupon he turned the key and started on another room. The Lenox library was incorporated in 1870 with its founder as first president of a board of trustees composed of eight of his friends. The beautiful building that many of us recall on Fifth Avenue at 70th Street was begun at once and the sumptuous book collections were housed in it some seven years later. From the beginning, however, public admission to the Lenox library was hedged about with so many restrictions that its use was confined to a relatively small number of students who were required to conform to a series of regulations that came to be regarded as increasingly irksome and were made the subject of much adverse and sarcastic comment in the public prints. Bibliographically, the Lenox library was an amazing aggregation of nuggets and rarities, especially in the field of Americana, but its benefits were ever for the few.

There came a time when the Astor family grew a little weary of its responsibilities and the Lenox trustees more and more perplexed with their difficult task of administering a public library which, under the testator's conditions and their own interpretations thereof, could never be made really public. At this psychological moment came the announcement that the will of Samuel J. Tilden, who died in 1886, provided for the creation of the Tilden Trust to which was left the entire residuary estate of the testator for the purpose of founding another public library for New York City. A bitter and long drawn out contest of the will on the part of Tilden's heirs resulted in reducing the original endowment of six millions to two millions, which sum was saved to the Trust only by the pious renunciation of one of the contestants. The trustees, of whom the venerable John Bigelow was president, realized that this sum was wholly inadequate for the founding of a library,

and presently the project of consolidation began to be broached—first with the Lenox, then with Astor foundation, and finally with both together. At one stage it was proposed to turn over the Tilden fund to Columbia university, but this was held contrary to the donor's intention. Consolidation of the three library foundations was in the air and, though the way was long and the negotiations protracted unto desperation, consolidation was finally achieved. The result was the present noble organization, the New York public library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden foundations, but without a circulating department.

1900, 14 corporations were receiving city aid for rendering library service in various parts of the Borough of Manhattan. They were village libraries, society libraries, church and subscription libraries. All were engaged in the circulation of books and their stipends were based upon circulation statistics and amounted, in that year, to \$151,000 for a recorded circulation of 3,393,619 volumes. It was inevitable that the proposal should be made to incorporate these independent little units into the large organization in process of formation and that they should combine to provide the circulating facilities for the whole city. This too was accomplished in the fulness of time, and many of the New York branches, housed in splendid buildings made possible by Andrew Carnegie's subsequent benefaction of \$5,500,000, now perpetuate in their names the traditions of these earlier institutions. The unique (some of us may be tempted to say "fortunately unique") arrangement by which the New York public library, a private corporation, performs circulating library service under a contract with the city in return for an annual subvention, apparently arose out of the system of stipends paid to the numerous local libraries, each operating under a charter of its own. Not unnaturally the obligation to turn over public funds to a private board of trustees, conscious and

jealous of its independence of all political associations, has never been popular with the powers that successively be, as the exasperating situation in which the circulating department of the New York public library habitually finds itself amply testifies.

Mr Lydenberg has done an important service to American librarianship in this careful and accurate work. That it was a labor of love seems clear from the charming style and human interest he has managed to infuse into a task that might easily have become laborious and borne the impress of drudgery. His accounts of the several founders, their personalities and motives, are sympathetic and just. His chronicle of the negotiations surrounding the consolidation, and the winning over of the small neighborhood libraries, is competent and patiently complete. His narrative of the processes of reorganization, building, installation and the beginnings of the new order is nothing less than thrilling to anyone interested in library administration. Few American public libraries have a history either as long, as complex, or as interesting as that appertaining to the great institution that is and forever must remain the leader and pattern of us all. It is fortunate that it should have found so competent, gifted and devoted a historian.

C. B. R.

Discontinued

The American School, a very helpful school journal and a welcome visitor to the exchange desk, published in Milwaukee, has been discontinued. The managing editor has left school work, engaging in business, and his new duties leave him no time for preparation of material or supervision of the issues, hence the discontinuance of the periodical.

Arrangements have been made by which subscribers whose subscriptions have not expired will be supplied with the *American Educational Digest*, to complete the unexpired portion of the subscription to *The American School*.

Library Schools**New York public library**

The school year proper opened on Monday, September 17, the junior class consisting of 40 members.

The few members of the classes receiving diplomas and certificates in June whose appointments have not been reported are now located as follows:

Ruth Brown, assistant, Preparation division, New York public library.

Jessie Craven, assistant, Denver public library.

Alice Le Fevre, librarian, Bunker junior high school, Muskegon, Michigan.

George L. McKay, curator, The Grolier club, New York City.

Ralph Thompson, assistant, Economics division, New York public library.

A group of former students and faculty members numbering about 20 attended the New York State library association conference at Silver Bay and gathered for dinner and a reunion on the evening set aside for the meetings of library school alumni and of workers associated in other connections.

ERNEST J. REECE,
Principal.

Simmons college

Appointments from the class of 1923 which have not already been reported are:

Barbara Abbott, in charge of reading room, Radcliffe College library.

Muriel Callowhill, assistant, Radcliffe College library.

Julia Crocker, assistant, Ventura County library, Ventura, California.

Katherine L. Cuzner, cataloger, Trinity College library, Durham, North Carolina.

Marcia Herridge, first assistant, Morris County free library, Morristown, New Jersey.

Laura Neiswanger, University of Kansas library, Lawrence.

Barbara Parsons, general assistant, Wesleyan College library, Middletown, Connecticut.

Eleanor Pease, University of Cincinnati library, Ohio.

Hazel Randall, children's librarian, Public library, Natick, Massachusetts.

Evelyn Robinson, cataloger, Yale Law library, New Haven, Connecticut.

Dorothy Staples, children's librarian, Public library, Ononta, New York.

JUNE R. DONNELLY,
Director.

Springfield, Mass.

From a recent entrance examination for admission to the library training class at the City library, Springfield, Mass., the following 10 persons were admitted as a result of the examination:

Winifred Bartlett, Longmeadow; Eunice Barrows, Springfield; Alice R. Brown, Yalesville, Ct.; Mildred E. Danforth, Berwick, Me.; Bernice A. Hall, Tolland, Ct.; Elizabeth B. Leonard, Feeding Hills; Janet B. Merrill, Methuen; Dorothy C. McKnight, Ellington, Ct.; Ruth E. Pinches, Saybrook Point, Ct.; Esther R. Rau, Rockville, Ct.

Members of last year's class are placed as follows: Rachel M. Bodine, Public library, Waterbury, Ct.; Louise Colby, University of Kentucky library; Josephine Converse, general assistant, Public library, Albany; Emily Whittier, Public library, Framington; Lena Albert, Esculene B. Bray, Mrs Louise C. Hagen, Springfield; Florence A. Bridgen, Meriden, Ct.; Irene K. Jaynes, Worcester, and Bernice C. Mahon, Agawam, have entered the City library system.

Western Reserve university

Advance registration for the year 1923-4 gives promise of the largest attendance in the history of the Western Reserve library school. The enrollment for the general course is 32, two of these being for half time. There are 17 enrolled for the special course in library work with children; of these 11 have general training either in this or some other library school. The geographical representation extends from Rhode Island to the state of Washington, with one from our territorial possession of Hawaii. The school opened Tuesday, September 18.

Positions:

Elizabeth M. Richards, '11 acting librarian, College for women, Western Reserve university.

Doris E. Burgey, '14, reference assistant, Public library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Mary E. Yoder, '14, cataloger and general assistant, Wooster College library, Ohio.

Helena S. LeFevre, '15, elected librarian, Thrall public library, Middleton, N. Y.

Helen M. Ranson, '15, cataloger, University of Minnesota library, Minneapolis.

Gladys English, '17, librarian, Tuolumne County free library, California.

Mabel M. Rieley, '17, librarian, Lincoln high-school library, Cleveland.

Lena E. Adams, '22, first assistant, West Carnegie branch library, Dayton, Ohio.

Lucy B. Alverson, '23, librarian, Public library, Alma, Mich.

Dorothy Schumacher, '23, librarian of the Lake View high-school, Chicago.

Maude R. Ressler, '23, librarian, High-school, Gary, Ind.

Charlotte E. Hartmann, '17, and John Charles Dumelon, Chicago, were married, June 30, 1923.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

Summer schools Minnesota

Professional courses in library methods, with university credit, were offered by the University of Minnesota. Four courses, carrying three-quarter credits each, were cataloging, classification, library administration and reference work. Eighty-three students took one or more of the courses. College graduates numbered 22 and only about a dozen had less than the two years' collegiate training required for credit.

The success of the course was made possible by the generous coöperation of the Library division of the State department of education, Minneapolis and St. Paul public libraries and the University high school.

New Hampshire

The fourth annual summer library school and the joint auspices of the University of New Hampshire and the Public library commission of the state was held at the university, July 23-August 3. Half of those in attendance had been students in the school before and one had attended all four annual sessions. The instructors were Miss Hobart, Clara W. Hunt, Alice Rowe, Ruth Dudiey, Helen Cushing, Elsie Gaskin and W. P. Lewis, librarian, University of New Hampshire.

Lectures were given by Dr J. I. Wyer, New York state library, on Being a librarian, and by Caroline Garland, of Dover, who gave three helpful lectures on book selection.

Books Wanted

Three important circulars have been sent out, one repeating the appeal to libraries and librarians to solicit books

from the public and to send books from their own duplicates for use in the American library in Paris, for use by the American library in Paris and by the American Library Association in meeting requests for American publications which come in from other countries of Europe. The American library in Paris particularly desires to obtain 1) files of the more important American periodicals; 2) publications of the more important national societies, especially those reflecting public opinion; 3) other works of reference relating to America; 4) collected editions of the writings of our representative writers and public men; 5) illustrated books on American art and architecture, especially the latter.

Almost any kind of books about America of comparatively recent date and in good condition will be accepted. Libraries are requested to solicit contributions either in wholesale fashion or from selected individuals in the community as well as setting aside the library's duplicates that may be spared.

Already some response has been made to these letters but a second appeal comes for good reading matter in English and for reference material about America for representative libraries thruout Europe, especially in the Slavic countries.

Books and journals are to be assembled in some one place yet to be determined and will then be apportioned to three groups by American librarians who know the needs. Small parcels for use in the American library in Paris, however, may be mailed direct, carefully wrapped and addressed, American library in Paris, 10, rue de l'Elysee, Paris, France.

This is a repetition, in a way, of notices which have appeared before in PUBLIC LIBRARIES, (see P. L. 28: 375), but the A. L. A. committee is anxious to jog the memory of many interested persons who are not indifferent but whose attention for the moment may have been attracted by other things. Those who will help or who have collections or suggestions, may address W. W. Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, or write direct to A. L. A. Headquarters, 78 East Washington Street, Chicago.

Department of School Libraries

Instruction in the Use of Books and Libraries*

Mary L. Harris, high school librarian, Santa Ana, Cal.

The interest in this subject is shown by the fact that in the last few years it has been finding a place so very frequently on the programs of teachers' and librarians' meetings. The result has been that many excellent courses have been worked out for teaching effectively the use of books and libraries and creating a desire to read. There is, however, a lack of uniformity as to the amount of time devoted to the work of the various schools. This seems to be dependent upon a great many factors, chief among them being, perhaps, the opportunity to give the work a place in the curriculum, and the time at the disposal of the librarian for planning and presenting the lessons and correcting the problems which she may wish to have follow each lesson. Sometimes only one class period is given, merely to bring the student to the library and acquaint him with its location and general matters in regard to it, which is good in itself but not sufficient to produce great results; again, in other schools, as many as 12 or even more class periods are given to the work.

There also seems to be a lack of uniformity as to the time when the work is given. Some courses provide for the grades and the high school—some only for one or the other, or for colleges. All are agreed upon the fundamentals which should be taught which are, briefly, the care and parts of a book, the arrangement of books in libraries, the card catalog, magazine indexes and the more important reference books. As more time is allowed, the course is expanded. The goal toward which we strive is to have courses which will teach the care and history of books, inspire the reading habit, and give self-dependence in the use

of books running thru the whole school curriculum, introducing the subjects at the time when there seems to be a real use for them and the purpose can be readily understood. It is certain that whatever amount of well-planned instruction is given, the results will be in the same proportion.

At present there are many colleges in which no courses of this kind are offered, more high schools and still more elementary schools. It is excellent that some of the colleges are teaching their students how to use books and libraries intelligently but the knowledge should also be given to that greater number of people whose formal education stops with the high school days and even before that, so that they may be better equipped to extend their education by themselves thru the public library which is the continuation school available to all people at all times. If we are helping to prepare our students to be most successful in their work and to be the best citizens, it is our duty to give them a knowledge of the vocational and cultural resources in books of the public library which will help them.

It may be difficult occasionally to work these lessons into an already overcrowded curriculum but wherever the work has been once introduced it has met with the hearty support of the faculty. The teaching methods of today often require the use of a great variety of material. Frequently several text and reference books, pamphlets, magazine articles, pictures, maps and publications of government bureaus are needed in working out some project which has been assigned, and teachers have recognized that knowing how to use things is a time saver, and that it is also valuable training for later purposes in life. Then, too, the questions which it is well to have follow each library lesson may be correlated with the other class work, preferably of the class that is giving the time for this, so that the library instruction is not a detached subject.

*Preceded a demonstration lesson given to a class of pupils before the Library department of the N. E. A., July 3, 1923, Oakland, Cal.

In giving the lesson on the parts of a book, the procedure in consulting any one book is substantially the same for all books. The index illustrates the alphabetic arrangement which is the key to the use of the card catalog, magazine indexes, and many reference books. The making of a good bibliography involves a knowledge of the various parts of a book. Without such instruction so common a thing as the index of a textbook used frequently may escape the observation of many students.

Each student is provided with a copy of the same book and the parts are studied in the order in which they occur by a process of questions and explanations. A few variations from the example at hand are considered but care must be taken that too many are not introduced or a confusion in the mind of the student will be the result.

* * * * *

The outline followed in giving the course of instruction in the use of the library in Washington university, St. Louis, (See P. L. 28: 407), is as follows:

Instruction in the use of the library

The following outline covers the work; Two lectures given as part of English I.

- I. Dictionaries, encyclopedias, biographical and geographical reference books and annuals.
- II. The card catalog: periodical and general indexes.

Group I—

- A. Dictionaries
 - 1 Webster's New International
 - 2 Standard
 - 3 Century
 - 4 Oxford
- B. Encyclopedias
 - 1 New International
 - 2 The Americana
 - 3 The Britannica
 - 4 World Almanac
 - 5 Jewish Cyclopaedia
 - 6 Catholic Encyclopedia
- C. Biographical and geographical reference books
 - 1 Dictionary of National biography
 - 2 Appleton's cyclopedia of American biography
 - 3 National cyclopedia of American biography
 - 4 Century cyclopedia of names

- 5 Thomas' dictionary of universal biography
- 6 Who's Who and Who's Who in America
- 7 Statesman's yearbook
- 8 Lippincott's Gazetteer
- 9 American yearbook; New International yearbook and Annual register

Group II—

- A. Periodical indexes
 - 1 Poole's and Annual library indexes
 - 2 Reader's Guide
 - 3 Reader's Guide supplement (now *International Index*)
 - 4 Industrial arts
 - 5 Magazine subject index (including *Dramatic index*)
 - 6 Engineering index
 - 7 Public Affairs information service
 - 8 *New York Times Index*
- B. General index
 - 1 A. L. A. Index to General Literature and Supplement
 - 2 A. L. A. portrait index
 - 3 A. L. A. catalog and supplement

JAMES A. McMILLEN,
Librarian.

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Library Notes for January, published by the North Carolina College for Women library, contains an outline of a course in library instruction offered to the students for the first time, 1921-1922. The purpose of the course was not to train librarians, but as fully as possible, to acquaint the students with the varied resources of the collections and to teach how best to obtain information on any subject from the material at their disposal.

The course dealt briefly with problems of classification and cataloging; the use of national and subject bibliographies; the use of periodical, newspaper and book indexes; the use of dictionaries, encyclopedias and reference books in philosophy and religion, the social sciences, statistics, economics, government, the pure and applied sciences and useful arts, fine arts, literature, biography, geography and history; new books and book reviews; printing, and binding. Actual reference work or the compilation of a bibliography was required. Ten students enrolled for the course.

Story-telling with Music

Miss Lillian L. Abele, children's librarian, Public library, Malden, Mass., makes an interesting presentation in her article, Music appreciation taught in the story hour, which appeared in the Massachusetts library club *Bulletin*, June, 1923. The article is full of suggestions which might be followed with benefit by any one engaged in story-telling for children. Some of the points are as follows:

A Victrola agency coöperated by placing a Victrola in the children's room and a short concert was given each afternoon when the after-school rush had somewhat abated. On Saturday morning the stories for the younger children were followed by the story of the child, Handel, with Handel's *Largo* as an introduction to the victrola program. In the afternoon the story of King Richard and Blondel and several of the tales from Robin Hood were told, with music at the proper place from the opera, Robin Hood.

It was kept in mind that the object of the story hour was to introduce books to the children, for music alone was beyond the province of the library. Much help was obtained from What we hear in music, issued by the Educational department of the Victor Talking Machine Company, and Music appreciation for little children. The latter is more adapted for kindergarten but some of its programs for music of different countries were very helpful.

After explaining what folk-tales really are and explaining how they develop, and telling something of the development of the folk-dance and the folk-song, we told one of the folk-tales of the country chosen for that day, with one or two folk-songs, a folk-dance and some modern national music.

For Italian day, we told the story of the month of March, followed by *O sole mio* played by violin, flute and harp. A brief outline of Chico, the story of a homing pigeon, with pictures of St. Marks and the Campanile, with children feeding the pigeons in the square, was

followed by the *Garibaldi Hymn* sung by Caruso. A short sketch of the life of Verdi and a little story of his following a street organ was followed by airs from several of his operas on a hurdy-gurdy record. The story of the Tarentella was followed by the playing of the record. The children were asked if they could keep time to the music which was taken as an invitation, with more or less successful attempts to do so. With *Ave Maria* sounding the Angelus, Millet's Angelus was circulated, giving a new meaning to the picture of the French peasants.

For the Russian story hour, we told the story of the Snow maiden and gave Mother Moscow, with the record, *Song of the Volga Boatman* and two dance songs played by the Balalaika orchestra. In this something of the song was explained and attention was called to especially interesting features or instruments. During one of the folk-tales of this program, several children sat almost spell-bound and after one of the dances, one of the little girls beamingly announced that she knew that.

The children who came, or whose parents came, from one of these countries felt almost in the position of hosts or hostesses to the other children. Besides the joy which always comes in recognition of familiar things, the children had added pleasure in something which seemed in a way to belong to them, and were more eager to understand and appreciate the other children's days when they came. This was not the direct object of the plan when outlined—it was not even thought of—but it seems an indirect result quite worth while.

When there is a little waste time on that appointment; when one is ahead of time or the other one is late; or for any reason when there are minutes to spare, use some of them for the professional reading which you are always wishing for. The Teachers' library is convenient to the School Board offices. It is a pleasant place to wait. It may be made profitable also.—*Kansas City Library Bulletin*.

An Interesting Position

Robert Bridges, poet laureate of England, has been invited by Dr M. L. Burton, president of the University of Michigan, to fill the creative arts fellowship in the university for the coming year. Robert Frost, New England poet, now at Amherst, held the post for two years.

The terms of the fellowship are simply to pay to the incumbent a salary which will allow him to live without worrying over means of sustenance, to provide working facilities, to relieve him of all active duties, and to allow him to work at the production of his own pictures, poems or whatever it may be.

The fellowship was founded in 1921 by Gov C. S. Osborne of Michigan who gave a fund of \$5000 for the work last year. Again this year the same amount has been given by an anonymous friend.

Required Reading of Students*

Olive Burroughs, Public library, Berkeley, California

The general aim of the school and of the public library is the same; they must work together. High-school minds are in the making and so far as we can guess, the world of 1950 will need all the wisdom that the men and women of that day can bring to the ordering of its affairs. When the resources of their own school library have been exhausted, we must welcome the boys and girls from the high-school at the public library, and we are glad that it is so, for if the high-school library were to be found self-sufficient, it would be as unfortunate for us as for the young person himself. Such a prospect appears remote, however, to the librarian who sometimes finds his reading room taken over by high-school students who have reached it *en masse* and preëmpted the place before their elders could enter a claim. The question arises, "How far is a public library warranted in going in sup-

plying service and books (and room) for required school reading?"

With some truth it might be said, "The support for schools is more assured than for libraries; then let the school pay for the education of its pupils, and let the library conserve its resources for the service of those whose only school or university it is." If the books and periodicals wanted by high-school students were of a peculiar kind intelligible only to people in their teens, the library might well close its doors to the high-school, but the student does not often ask for text-books (or if he does, he does not get them); the books which he wants are those which the library must have in any case. If the high-school library is adequate, the cost to the public library of books exclusively for high-school use is negligible. The adequate high-school library will supply in sufficient number books for which there is an ever recurring need. The public library should have on its shelves books for which a special need may arise, because of the day's news, or because of an occasional adventuring of the class off the main highway. Unless the public library has an ample book fund, it is doubtful whether it is warranted in diverting any of it towards the purchase of additional copies of books for high-school use. As for service, it must naturally be available wherever the material is; the public library must expect to help the student in the use of the *Congressional Record*, for example, of the *Industrial Arts Index*, and of much pamphlet material. With the growing interest of the schools in school libraries, and with the library also, thru a committee of the A.L.A., investigating the subject of adequate financial support of school and college libraries, the situation will doubtless improve; more of the high-school libraries will receive adequate support and the demand on the city libraries will decrease.

In the Public library at Berkeley, books for the history and civics classes are selected by the teacher and are set

*Paper presented at the 28th annual meeting of the California library association, Yosemite, June, 1923.

aside in the reference room for the use of the high-school classes. These reserve shelves are maintained throughout the school year, the teacher withdrawing some books and substituting others as needed. We do not observe any serious depletion of the shelves in the stack resulting from this practice. Only one copy of each book is reserved usually, and the student must watch his chance to get any particular volume. Thus, it is not a question of the duplication of books to any great extent with us, but rather of providing study room for the high-school pupils. The high-school is only three blocks from the library, and at three o'clock in the afternoon there is a rush of students at the public library, exchanging books, requiring assistance at the reference desk for some special topic, looking up their own references, or going to their reserve shelf. Again in the evening adults are sometimes unable to find a chair in the reference room.

College requirements in reading present a different phase. There are over 3000 students registered with us; we have no reserve shelves for college material, and it is "first come, first served". The students file postal reserve cards, but the need is often past before the book is ready for the latest applicant. It frequently happens that the books wanted by college students are wanted at the same time by other readers, and of course the library cannot hope to supply copies enough of any book to meet a lively demand for a short time; it cannot, except perhaps with certain new books, overstock its shelves tomorrow for today's need. When books which we know to be used in a college course prove to be missing from our shelves, we do not replace them until the college demand is past; they often find their way back to the shelf in the student's own time. Only in this way—a prudent one, we think—do we discriminate at all against college students; they are residents of Berkeley, for the time at least, and contribute to its prosperity. I believe that the mutilation

of books at the Berkeley public library by school and college students is not greater than mutilations made by other readers, but students do undoubtedly show deplorable disregard for the rights of others in taking books without having them charged and keeping them indefinitely.

And the reading of books as literature, the novel, play, biography, essay or book of travel which the child is required to read, and of which he must perhaps render an account. Can the library lend its support to this part of the school program? The library exists because of its belief in the companionship and joy to be had from books, and we have known boys and girls to express indifference or even dislike, unqualified and emphatic, of an author read because they had to. A young man came in the library the other day to select some books for a boys' camp in the Yosemite; he was not long out of college, but he had had experience with boys' clubs. He was selecting Dillon Wallace, Conan Doyle, Kipling, E. C. Lincoln, and Conrad, and I had no need to urge the classics, but he did volunteer, "If it's in their school work it won't go; the only way I can get them to read that stuff is to start reading it aloud, and then when it gets interesting enough I close the book. 'Oh, go on', they say, and I reply, 'You know how to read, don't you?'" I think that young man has the secret; making reading a sport. He is doing better than that; he is, as Hildegard Hawthorne puts it, acknowledging it to be a sport.

Every boy and girl ought to be exposed to good reading during his school life—no once, but repeatedly—if may be, until it catches. If the treatment too often has been painful and productive of no good result, it seems to me that the fault lies not with the children's books nor with the children, but with the elders who have attached so little importance to the subject. No one book is essential to the welfare of any one child; the essentials are a shelf of good books of varied

appeal, and some one who knows the books and the children well enough to make a happy introduction—even to go outside the reading list if necessary. This person is logically the teacher, and, with diminishing opportunity and obligation, the school librarian and the public library assistant. The remedy for failure of the required reading system is to be found in the way of more thought and care on the part of the schools and of the public library working together. The committees in charge of the compiling of reading lists for the schools should meet with representatives from the library staff, and the lists should be the best that can be made by experts in children and in children's reading. Since reading is the most important thing a child can learn in school, the work of inspiring and guiding the pupil's reading should be assigned as definite a place on the school program as is given to arithmetic.

The school department at the Berkeley public library is in charge of a senior assistant. Class room libraries of 25 volumes, chosen by the teacher or by the school department, or both, are sent to teachers who request them. The children's room and sometimes the adult department are also drawn on for the class room libraries, and six of the schools have a deposit of 200 books each, in charge of one teacher for the whole collection.

A closer coöperation than now exists in many cities, between the schools and the public library, would be of definite benefit to the work of both. Librarians should occasionally notify the school people of new books of special interest to school people, and the librarian of the school department might well give book talks to classes at school. Librarians should keep in touch with matters of interest in the educational world, know something of the plans and problems of the local schools, and attend occasional meetings of the local school people. In short, in whatever way they can, and

as clearly as possible, libraries must say to school, "You need us. Here we are."

A "Library Project" in Sixth Grade Althea Warren, Public library, San Diego, California

As pleasant as tilting a tennis ball over the net straight onto your partner's racquet is the thrill of a piece of work batted directly from the librarian to the school teacher. The San Diego public library and the sixth grade of the Jefferson elementary school have experienced this heartening game thru the success of a "library project" devised and carried out by Mrs Ida Parker, a public school teacher, with an enthusiasm for bringing books to life out of the dead print of the required reading list. She began her plan in Berkeley two years ago, coöperating with a branch library and the children's department of the Berkeley public library.

In starting the work, interest concentrated on animal stories because Baldy of Nome was discovered to be a Berkeley resident. His owner, Mrs Darling, brought the wise old dog to see the children and gave each child in the grade his photograph. Essays and letters were written about Baldy. When every child had read his story, Alaska became the scene of their ardent geographic, historic, and literary researches. They then progressed voraciously to the best narratives of all cold countries from Dillon Wallace, Leonidas Hubbard and Grenfell on Nova Scotia and Labrador to Scott and Shackleton on the Antarctic, even reading parts of such an advanced scientific specialty as Levick's Antarctic penquins.

In San Diego, Mrs Parker told her class last fall that at graduation time a certificate of merit would be awarded to every pupil who had read with thoro understanding ten standard books during the school year. A grade room library was selected by Mrs Parker from the school collection of the

public library and enthusiasm in the books was kindled at the start by a program for Children's Good Book Week. The third, fourth and fifth grades were invited to hear book reviews of what sixth grade pupils had read in the first two months of school. One boy dramatized the *Knighting of Miles* from Howard Pyle's *Men of iron* and ingeniously presented the scene in home-made hardware armor. A girl gave a clever monologue of the Ruggles family getting ready for the party from *The Bird's Christmas carol*. Several eager voices retold the stories of their favorite books or gave biographies of beloved authors. A talk on writers living in San Diego was made by the librarian of the public library, including such worth while favorites as Miss Julia Schwartz who wrote the *Little star gazers* and *Wilderness babies*; Mr Edwin Sabin who, with his red setter, Dan, is a hermit hunter in La Jolla, and Lieut Col Bishop, in command of our Marine barracks, whose hero has made many boys anticipate great adventure in the service of the "soldiers of the sea". A competition was started in the drawing class for the best design of the certificate of merit. Other book talks were made thruout the year, the children's librarian and librarians from two nearby branches contributing as well as the pupils themselves.

At the final exercises, when the certificates were presented, an audience of parents and the superintendent of schools was invited to see plays written by the pupils and based upon books they had read. The *Wrath of Achilles*, a play in five acts based upon the *Iliad*, was the climax of all these successes. The costumes and scenery were the work of the sixth grade pupils. A girl of the class composed the music. A picture of the chief participants proves how valuable plumes from your mother's disused Sunday hat may be to Agamemnon, and how a tea tray coated with silver paper can withstand the onslaughts of the hosts of Troy. Is it not enough to say for

the "project method" in library reading for the grades that it has made Homer live for fifteen obdurately modern American small boys?

Greetings from the President of the National Education Association

Miss Olive M. Jones, new president of the National Education Association, has sent out the following greeting:

To be president of the National Education Association is to represent the greatest body of teachers in the world. It is to accept a solemn trust that lifts one above the ordinary responsibilities of locality or group to broader duties to the profession as a whole and to the nation. In accepting this trust I dedicate myself to the service of the entire association and the profession it represents. The association has an efficient headquarters staff upon which I shall rely. It has a well conceived program which shall be my program. It has an outstanding mission to which I shall give my best and for which I bespeak the enlistment and whole-hearted coöperation of the teaching profession. The cause of education is the foundation upon which we can unite to build a greater profession and a greater and better nation.

A Notable Gathering

The World conference on education held at San Francisco last summer was a notable occasion if for nothing else than the opportunity it gave for expression of good will. In view of the handicap found in a multiplicity of languages, in the wide difference in advancement in educational problems, the widely different ideas of school management and the place of education in the various schemes of government, the occasion was a remarkable one. While the meeting was only a beginning, it was that, and its avowed purpose, the promotion of national friendship, good will and understanding among all nations, was brought to the fore. Expression of definite opinion on a number of questions laid a foundation which may go far toward making the permanent organization proposed a definite thing. Librarians will be interested in a phase of some of these.

It is proposed that this permanent organization should establish a bureau of research and publicity to collect and distribute information of general interest to educators everywhere, perhaps to conduct an international digest of educational news; a bureau to conduct a universal library, to circulate books and pamphlets coming within the scope of the work of the federation; an agency to study the problem of improving text-books of various countries as to accuracy with which they present facts and conditions relating to other countries.

These are only some of the resolutions passed but they indicate how wide flung are the educational ideals of the leaders of the work.

An important item which should be noted by librarians generally but by school librarians particularly is the setting apart of May 18, the anniversary of the first Hague conference, as an annual World Good Will day. This surely gives opportunity for any sort of library to enter into the appeal for peace on earth and in urging good will toward men—in the crowded cities where the foreign-born do mostly gather and who for the most part are stunned by the wide difference between their ideals of what it meant to live in America and the actual conditions which surround them, and, as well, in the libraries in the smaller communities where at the present time, at least, there is great need of an antidote to counteract the subtle poison of selfishness and ignorance which, so subtly spread, will undermine the foundations of the Republic if allowed to work.

Platform Suggested for N. E. A. Library Department

Active, aggressive propaganda for school libraries in U. S. at once:

I. For these purposes:

- a) Standards for plans and equipment for new buildings.
- b) Standards of qualifications for librarians, with plans toward certification.

c) Standards for book selection for various grades.

II. Thru these means.

a) Publicity thru periodicals, one person to sponsor each topic.
b) Publicity thru circularization of state departments of education, city superintendents and leading architects.

c) Committees on 1) elementary school standards, 2) qualifications of librarians in various grades, 3) booklists for the grades and especially for high school, 4) preparing points for survey of school libraries in any grade, 5) publicity.

MARTHA C. PRITCHARD, President
Library department.

Oakland, California, July 2, 1923.

An Interesting Offer

In order to secure as widespread interest as possible in the work of the Committee on elementary school library standards, Mr C. C. Certain, its chairman, wishes to offer to members of the Library department of the N. E. A. two prizes of \$12.50 each, as follows:

Prize I—For the most satisfactory outline of lessons on the use of books and libraries, grades 1-8.

Prize II—For the most satisfactory scenario for moving pictures relating to the problem of library instruction, grades 1-8.

The pictures must be of value in supplementing the instruction actually given school children on the use of books and libraries.

Both the lesson outline and the scenario must be sent to me not later than January 1, 1924. The outlines and scenarios received will be judged by the following members of the committee: Annie Cutter, Cleveland, Ohio; Mabel Williams, New York City; Jasmine Britton, Los Angeles, Cal.; Adeline Zachert, Harrisburg, Penn.; Worth McClure, Seattle, Wash.

Both the outlines and the scenarios will be used in the report of the committee and full credit given to the authors.

I am the Library

I am the Library;
 I am a teacher;
 I am a teacher bigger than the schools,
 For I teach all.
 I teach the child
 In his first toddling efforts after knowl-
 edge:
 Grimm and Andersen and Mother
 Goose,
 And stories of nature,
 Of birds and flowers and insects,
 And of the wonders of this world into
 which he was born—
 All this I teach him.

I teach the youth
 Who comes with inquiring mind,
 Eager to know all possibilities
 The universe holds in store for him,
 Anxious concerning the future;
 I give him romance—Scott, Dumas,
 Mark Twain;
 And biography—Franklin, Lincoln,
 Roosevelt;
 And history, and science, and travel;
 I lead him into the ways of beauty,
 And give him art and music and
 poetry;
 I inspire him; I teach him.

I teach the new American
 Come, hope-fed, to this land of prom-
 ise;
 I show him the ways of her fathers,
 The ideals of her great men and
 women,
 The meaning and beauty of her flag;
 I teach him pride in her honor,
 And glory in his new citizenship;
 I make him an American.

I teach all—scholar, preacher, man of
 business.
 Woman—maker and keeper of homes,
 Soldier, lawyer, scientist;
 I call all to me;
 I give them my teachings;
 I am the teacher of the world;
 I am the Library.

PEARL GERTRUDE CARLSON,
*Library School number, St. Louis public
 library Monthly Bulletin.*

News From the Field

East

Mildred Wadsworth, Simmons '18,
 has been appointed librarian of the
 Boston normal school.

Elinor Taylor, Simmons '22, was
 married June 23 in Bridgeport, Con-
 necticut, to Walter W. Kittredge.

Gertrude Shaw, Simmons '16, has
 been appointed librarian of the high
 school, Canton, Massachusetts.

Margaret Kneil, Simmons '14, has
 been appointed librarian of the Weaver
 high school, Hartford, Connecticut.

Dorothy Smith, Simmons '21, has
 been appointed librarian of the Salem
 normal school, Salem, Massachusetts.

Mrs Marion Starbird Pottle, Sim-
 mons '19, is to be acting librarian for
 a year at the Yale Law library, New
 Haven.

Katherine McNamara, Simmons '18,
 has resigned her position as librarian
 of Bradford academy, Bradford,
 Massachusetts.

George B. Utley, librarian, Newberry
 library, Chicago, received the honorary
 degree of *Master of Arts* from his *Alma
 Mater*, Brown university, at commence-
 ment in June.

Winifred S. Farrell, Simmons '06,
 was married on July 3 to Murtach M.
 S. Moriarity. Mr and Mrs Moriarity
 are at home at 3 Magnolia Avenue,
 Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Mrs Helen M. Richards, for three
 years in charge of the Traveling library
 department of the Vermont free public
 library commission, has been appointed
 secretary, succeeding Miss Julia C.
 Carter, resigned.

Miss Norma H. Morehouse, Brighton,
 Nova Scotia, has been appointed head of
 the traveling library department.

During the recent session of the Ver-
 mont legislature, as a part of the gen-
 eral scheme of consolidation, an act was
 passed abolishing the Free public library
 commission and assigning its duties to
 the Board of education. The former
 commission is now known as the Free

public library department of the Board of education.

The seventy-first annual report of the Public library, Boston, contains a report of the trustees as to financial conditions; the report of the Examining committee, setting out various important things; the report of the librarian relating to growth, changes and development of the work and related activities, the use and staff. An index is a valuable addition. An accompanying map shows the location of branches and reading rooms throughout the city.

An exhibit of libraries for penal and correctional institutions held in connection with the American Prison congress in Boston, in September, created favorable comment by the press of the city.

The exhibit was made up of posters, photographs of a number of libraries in prisons and a collection of selected books for prison libraries. Conspicuous among the photographs of prison libraries was that of the Sherborn reformatory for women, at Framingham, where open cases and many of the ideas of a regular public library are in force, and which attracted much attention and discussion. The exhibit was gotten up by the A. L. A., under the direction of Miss E. Kathleen Jones.

Central Atlantic

Evelyn Wallis, Simmons '19, is to be children's librarian of the East Orange public library.

Margaret Clark, Simmons '15, has been appointed a cataloger in Princeton university.

Helen Robbins, Simmons '22, has been appointed art librarian at Princeton university.

Miss Harriett B. Gooch has become assistant librarian at Haverford college, Haverford, Pa.

Margaret Taylor, Simmons '22, has joined the staff of the Public library, Rochester, New York.

The Jervis public library, Rome, N. Y., has received a gift of \$5000 thru

the will of the late Edward Comstock, formerly of Rome.

Mrs Helen Wark Grannis, N. Y. P. L., '15-18, has taken the post of librarian of U. S. Marine hospital, No. 43, Ellis Island, New York.

Marian Reynolds, Simmons '21, has resigned her position in the Kalamazoo public library, and will spend the winter at her home at 1411 Crittenden Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Alice E. Ogden, who was in attendance at the library school of the New York public library for part of the school year '21-22, has been made reference assistant in the James Prendergast free library, Jamestown, N. Y.

The dramatic library of Francis H. Jenks, for several years dramatic editor of the Boston *Transcript*, has recently been presented by his son, E. M. Jenks, to The Players, New York City. The collection consists of books, programs, pictures, souvenirs, etc.

The fourteenth annual report of the Public library of Elizabeth, New Jersey, records: books on the shelves, 81,495; circulation, 328,756; 32,099 pictures loaned out of a collection of 49,862; registered readers in good standing, 16,899.

Miss Marie Hogan (Syracuse), formerly librarian at Argo, Illinois, and later at Gary, Indiana, was married, July 2, to Augustus Robbins, Jr., of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Their home will be in Wilkes-Barre where Mr Robbins is district manager of the United Press, one of the large news corporations of the United States.

The city of Albany, N. Y., has taken advantage of the law recently passed which permits the city to take over the libraries of the Young Men's association which has previously operated the libraries of the city. The system of libraries will be known hereafter as the Albany public library, made up of a main library with branches. The board of trustees will consist of 16 members, 10 of whom were members of the board of trustees of the Young

Men's association, and six to be appointed by the mayor of Albany. The library will be conducted in all ways according to the public library laws of the state of New York.

Interest in radio and the decrease of unemployment account for a decline in circulation for the past year at the Nevins Memorial library, Methuen, Mass., according to the recent report of the librarian, Miss Beatrice N. Weibel. This, however, is no indication that the library is not reaching the people as the past year has been one of more than usual activity in every branch of the library's service. About 200 students attended classes of instruction in the use of the library and books.

Volumes in the library, 24,485; borrowers, 2,484, 16 per cent of the population; total circulation, 39,854.

At the request of the Woman's Trade Union league, 247 Lexington avenue, New York City, the Library Employees union of Greater New York is organizing its library which has over 1,000 volumes and a large number of pamphlets and clippings.

This library will be open to all union members both for the circulation of books and as an up-to-date reference library on labor questions generally but especially as they relate to women.

The Library committee of the Woman's Trade Union league which has charge of the work is as follows: Maud Malone, chairman, Mrs Maud Schwartz, Emma Pafort, Alice Von Tuyl and Marie G. Cokeley.

The Public library of Buffalo, N. Y., is marking its twenty-fifth anniversary of the plan of coöperation between the public schools and the library by issuing a catalog of the books used in all the grades of the public schools. Twice a year libraries are sent to class rooms in those schools that have requested them. The use of school libraries is not compulsory. These libraries are planned for supplemental and recreational reading for the children and not for study, the theory

being that children should develop a taste for reading in the school where they learn the art of it.

These books are sent to 54 schools and to 26 annexes. The selection of the books is in charge of Mrs H. L. Elmendorf, vice-librarian, who makes the selections after critical reading. Mrs Elmendorf states that "the real need is for more books written with the more complete understanding of the needs of children, from wider, deeper and more exact knowledge of the things described, with a more consummate skill in adapting the expression to fit the audience, beautifully printed, fitly illustrated, bound in sound, shapely fashion."

In the front of each book is the library's book-plate which reads as follows:

The good citizen says: "As a citizen of Buffalo, I am heir to all her beauty and to her great possessions, her roads and her parks, her schools and libraries.

"I resolve never to mar that beauty nor spoil those possessions and, so far as I may, I will help my companions to a like resolve, for I plainly see that not to do thus must bring loss to them and to me.

"Books from the Public library will long give joy to every reader if handled with clean hands and in a gentle way.

"I will see that the books which I read shall not be the worse for the joy and profit they have given me."

Central

Agnes Judkins, Simmons '18, has joined the staff of the Detroit public library.

Gertrude Davis, Simmons '21, has joined the staff of the Iowa State College library, at Ames.

Marie Vaughn, St. Louis, '23, has been appointed assistant in the Public library, Mascouton City, Iowa.

Sarah Findley, Simmons '14, has been appointed librarian of Evansville college, Evansville, Indiana.

Mrs Jessie B. Gordon, St. Louis, '23, has been elected librarian of the Public library, Iowa City, Iowa.

Katherine Hall, Simmons '20, has gone to the John Crerar library, Chicago, as a junior assistant.

Genevieve Drake, Simmons '17, has resigned her position in the Wooster College library.

Miss Ethel Berry, librarian of the Franklin branch, Public library, Minneapolis, has resigned to accept a position with the *Journal* of that city.

The Chicago board of education has voted \$20,000 to support branches in seven Chicago high schools, under the direction of Chicago public library.

Miss Ethel B. Kellar, librarian of the Carnegie library, Fort Smith, Arkansas, has resigned to join the staff of the library of Northwestern university, Evanston, Illinois.

The Public library of Fort Wayne and Allen County, Indiana, reports a circulation for the past year of 460,288v.; number of books on the shelves, 112,956; pamphlets, 12,321; registered borrowers, 37,476.

Belle Caldwell, Illinois '08, librarian, Public library, Charles City, Iowa, received the degree of Master of science from Columbia university at the one hundred and sixty-ninth commencement.

Miss Gwendolyn Brigham, for a long time a very valuable member of A. L. A. staff at headquarters, was married to Robert Douglas White, September 20. She will continue a member of the headquarters staff after October 1.

Miss Bertram French who resigned from the Public library, Columbia City, Ind., last spring, after three years of service, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Elmwood, Ind. Miss French received her training at Chautauqua library school.

Johnson Brigham, State librarian of Iowa, was signally honored in the summer when Drake university conferred on him the honorary degree of *Doctor of Literature*, in recognition of his literary attainments and the service he has rendered to the public.

The degree of *Doctor of Letters* has been conferred on Harlow Lindley, librarian of Earlham college, by Han-

over college, Indiana. Dr Lindley has been connected with Earlham college for 25 years, both as librarian and head of the department of history. He has been appointed recently director of the Indiana historial commission.

Miss Josephine M. Jandell, after a service of more than 22 years as librarian of the Northern Illinois State teachers college, DeKalb, has resigned. Eva McMahon, Illinois '07, the assistant librarian at the State Teachers' college since 1909, has been appointed Miss Jandell's successor. Elizabeth Sammis, Wisconsin '22, has been appointed assistant librarian.

D. Draper Dayton, a member of the Public library board of Minneapolis, Minn., for 12 years, died, July 24. The *Bulletin* of the Public library speaks of his going as an inestimable loss to the institution as well as to the city at large. Mr Dayton gave generously of his time and thought to library affairs and his interest was responsible in no small measure for the growth and progress which the library has made.

The county commissioners of Hamilton county, Ohio, are planning to place the project of a new library building before the voters shortly, with the expectation that it will be approved by the county. The present library building in Cincinnati was long ago much outgrown both for storage and extension of work. The Public library serves all the people of the county and it is confidently expected that they will approve the motion to provide \$2,500,000 for a new building.

Two conferences for library trustees were held in the Library commission exhibit rooms at the Iowa state fair, in August. The attendance was not encouraging but there was considerable interest on the part of those present in the discussion of financial problems—adequate income, how it may be secured, and salaries. There was also considerable discussion of the problem of book selection—by whom it should be done and what should be included. The conferences will be continued.

Miss Lucy E. Keeler who served for eight years as secretary of the Birchard library, Fremont, Ohio, has resigned. Deep regret is recorded by the library board.

Miss Keeler has always been a very good friend of libraries and an especially helpful spirit in the Birchard library. During the period of her service to the library, it has developed wonderfully and is now on a plane where it will doubtless remain as a moving power in the best life of the community. A little pamphlet entitled *Eight year survey, 1915-1923*, is a creditable record of work well done.

The Public library of Peoria, Illinois, has received an increase of \$10,000 for the coming year. This amount is \$13,000 less than was asked for by the library board. The minimum standard set by the A. L. A. of \$1 per capita is by no means the one adopted by Peoria since the census report gives the city a population of 76,121.

The Peoria *Transcript* in commenting editorially, speaks of the new and advanced spirit which has marked the administration of the Peoria public library during the past year and calls for an increase also in public appreciation to a larger extent than at present. The editorial closes with the following:

The check book is the only book which the librarian cannot put into the library. This accession must be approved by the public.

The following appointments have been made by the Iowa State college library:

Caroline Orvis, Illinois '17, formerly of the University of North Dakota, has been appointed to take charge of serials; Frances Warner, Illinois '19, at present librarian of Dakota Wesleyan University library, loan librarian; Gertrude Davis, Simmons '21, at present librarian of the Women's Educational and Industrial union, assistant in the reference department; Grace Oberheim, Wisconsin '20, at present librarian of Frances Shimer school, Mount Carroll, Illinois, assistant in the loan department.

Miss Inez C. Potter, who has been on the staff of the Public library, Evan-

ston, Illinois, for the past 12 years, has resigned her position to become librarian of the Junior high school, Cleveland, Ohio. The patrons of the library, whom Miss Potter had served for so many years, are reluctant to have her go since her term of service to the school children has been of sufficient length for the latter to have entered adult life, and their belief in Miss Potter's opinion as to the best books is as strong as in the earlier days.

Miss Gertrude W. Morse, children's librarian of the Utley branch, Detroit public library, succeeds Miss Potter. Miss Helen E. Watson of the Public library, Davenport, Iowa, has also joined the staff of the Evanston library as general assistant.

An interesting coöperative scheme for school library service has been adopted by the Public library, Gary, Ind. The Board of education pays for four children's librarians and makes an appropriation for additional books and furniture equipment in order to send children in classes directly to the branches. Something of the kind has been carried on at the central library for several years but the work was done by a teacher of the school who accompanied the classes. It is hoped now to have competent librarians in charge of the work in the branches.

Need of increased income and the adoption of a definite and enlarged plan for branches and school service are the chief problems confronting the Public library, Des Moines, Iowa, according to the 1922-23 report of that institution. Greater progress has been made in the past year than in any previous year of the library's history and if the growing demands on its service are met, a much more adequate appropriation for the library is imperative. A plan whereby the library can "secure sites for permanent branch buildings and erect one branch each year until the city is dotted with branch libraries as it is with schools" is recommended.

The library now maintains five branches, two having been opened during the year, and 10 deposit stations; 392 class-

room libraries are used in 51 schools. The library contains 153,000v., 23,074 of which were purchased during the year. In a population of 140,000, 38,416 (27 per cent) are registered borrowers; total circulation, 636,601, an increase of 142,491 over the preceding year. Reference questions, 21,000; readers using library, 53,178. A gain each year in the use of the reference department is noted.

Receipts for year, \$106,042; expenditures, \$105,552.

Several changes have been made in the staff of the University of Minnesota.

Additions: Jennie A. Hulce (Illinois), cataloging; Hazel Evans (Illinois), periodicals; Anna Lenshow (N. Y. S.), Helen M. Ranson (W. R.), Louise M. Boerlage (N. Y. P. L.), have joined the staff of the cataloging department. Emma Stephenson (N. Y. P. L.) has left to take charge of the order department, University of Oregon. Clara Larson (N. Y. P. L.) has taken a position in the Fresno county library, California. Nelle Halloran leaves to attend Simmons College library school.

An account of unusual interest not only as a record of progress and accomplishment but as a chronicle of the intellectual life of the community is the recent report of the Public library of Owatonna, Minnesota. In a summary of the library's development as a significant factor in the life of the people, the librarian sketches the changes in the community through a period of several years, these changes emanating largely from the library as the most broadening influence; gives her observations as to the "effect" of books; notes the fluctuating literary taste of her reading public, and expresses the belief that the real worth of such an institution as the public library is being more and more appreciated by those it serves.

The county use of the library has had encouraging growth, the rural districts being served by traveling libraries and stations in schools.

Statistics for the year give: Books on shelves, 16,804; circulation, 61,998,

56 per cent of which was non-fiction; 580 clippings and 2,163 pictures circulated.

The Public library of Toledo, Ohio, has been celebrating in various ways the fiftieth anniversary of its service as a tax-supported institution.

An account sent out traces the development of the library from a subscription library in 1838 thru the succeeding years until it is now one of the best libraries in the country. The library has had public support since 1873. Miss Lucy Stevens was its first librarian—one of those present at the A. L. A. conference of 1876. Mrs Frances Jermain became librarian in 1884 and gave to the public library service of Toledo such an impetus as has carried it on to its present position among the best libraries in the county, despite reverses in funds and administration which the library has suffered at various times. In 1903, Mrs Jermain was succeeded by Willis Sewall. In 1914, Herbert H. Hirshberg succeeded Mr Sewall. The present librarian, Carl P. P. Vitz, took charge of the library in 1922.

The main building has been greatly enlarged and eight branch libraries are now operating, with more under way. Deposits are made in public and parochial schools more than three-fourths of a mile from a library. The collection of books has grown from less than 7,000 volumes to over 180,000, with a yearly circulation of more than 1,100,000.

The fiftieth birthday celebration was two-fold in nature, the holding of open house in all the branches and departments and a campaign for books for hospital library service. Members of the library board, representatives from various clubs, with the assistance of the librarians and neighborhood organizations, dispensed hospitality in the beautifully decorated rooms of the library thruout the city. The work in various departments of the library went on all the time so that the public could actually see the library in operation. The second form of celebration was the campaign for books for hospital li-

brary service, The Library Board approved plans to install such service but lack of funds and shortage of staff prevented the carrying out of this plan. The campaign for help in this branch of the library's service has been carried on since early in the spring and with the assistance of the Boy Scouts and school children of all schools, with posters in libraries, hospitals, engine houses, book stores, hotel lobbies, club rooms and other public places, letters to former trustees, former staff members, fraternal and welfare organizations, the books are still coming in, as well as gifts of money. It is expected, as a result of this campaign, that adequate hospital service will soon be installed.

In a "report from the employees of the Public library to their employer, the public," M. S. Dudgeon; librarian of the Public library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, sets out the accomplishments of the forty-fourth and forty-fifth years of the library's existence. In chapters entitled "What the public has a right to know about the Public library" and "Some things the Milwaukee public library is doing," Mr Dudgeon combines figures and facts into an interesting story of the institution's work during 1921-1922.

Every family in the city, on the average, possesses a borrower's card; every family in the city borrows, on the average, approximately one book every two weeks. In a population of 539,449, with 495,547v. on its shelves, the library's circulation among 106,244 borrowers totalled 2,479,332v.

The library was able to purchase last year a number of valuable and greatly needed foreign books. Work with the schools of the city and county continues to hold an important place in the library's plan of service, collections of books being maintained in 934 grade class rooms as well as in every school house in the county outside the city. A newly created department, Adult educational service, which has as its object the bringing into contact with the library's resources the mass of adult workers who are seeking to secure an education, has already en-

rolled 26,285 persons. The aim of this department is not only to make the library accessible to these workers but to have it actually used by them.

Receipts for 1921, \$267,163; expenditures, \$242,211; receipts for 1922, \$306,304, expenditures, \$263,003.

South

Marguerite V. Doggett, N. Y. P. L., '17-20, has been appointed reference librarian at Clemson agricultural college, S. C.

Mrs Cora Case Porter, librarian, Carnegie public library, Enid, Oklahoma, is traveling in Europe. She expects to spend three months abroad.

Louis H. Bolander, N. Y. P. L., '19-20, has been appointed superintendent of circulation and reference librarian, Trinity College library, Durham, N. C.

The annual report of the Public library of Dallas, Texas, records a circulation of 300,369 v. thru seven agencies, serving a population of 215,000. Volumes on the shelves, 66,971; borrowers, 40,000.

Miss Mary Brown Humphrey, formerly of the Public library, Louisville, Ky., and later reference librarian, University of Oregon, Eugene, has taken a year's leave of absence which she will spend in university work, completing requirements for her degree. Miss Humphrey is a graduate of Pratt Institute library school.

Mrs George T. Settle of Louisville, Ky., successfully passed the examination for admission to the bar, August 1, and is now a full-fledged lawyer. Mrs Settle was the only woman member of the law class of 1923 at the University of Louisville. She will open an office shortly and begin the practice of law.

Miss Charlotte Templeton, formerly secretary of the Georgia library commission, began her work as librarian of the Public library, Greenville, S. C., September 1. A new library building with an auditorium and space for other departments is in process of erection in Green-

ville, which it is expected will be ready for occupancy, January 1, 1924.

A Free library service bureau, a part of the State department of education, with the duties of a library commission, began functioning in Arkansas in July. The work of the bureau is to assist old libraries and to organize new ones. Mrs Vergil McLellan, Illinois '22-'23, for three years reference librarian, Public library, Little Rock, is in charge. The bureau now has 3,000v. available for traveling libraries.

Aileen McGee, reference librarian, A. & M. college, Mississippi, has returned to her home in Greenville, S. C. Alice James (Atlanta) has joined the staff of the cataloging department. Laura Hall, head of the cataloging department, will divide her time between the catalog and reference departments. The library now occupies all the top floor of the new Biology building, having 12,500 square feet of floor space.

In a recent report of the Public library of Tampa, Florida, one notes the inauguration of a branch system, two branch libraries having been opened during the year. Deposits of books have been placed in two factories. The value of these branches is shown in the increased circulation, which totals 141,420 v., an increase of 27,000. During the year \$5,000 was expended for new books, the additions increasing the total collection to 20,740 v. The reading rooms now receive 129 magazines and 15 newspapers.

The 1922 report of the Free public library, Jacksonville, Florida, stresses the need of more branches to relieve congestion at the main library, urging the establishment, as early as possible, of two white branches and one colored branch. The circulation for 1922 surpassed all previous records, totalling 283,134v., an increase of 16 per cent.

During the year the library has been the recipient of two collections of books, each numbering 200v.

Statistics show: population, 100,146; registered borrowers, 19,905; books in library, 63,119.

Henry M. Gill, librarian, Public library, New Orleans, La., in his annual report, states that "the biggest piece of work undertaken by the library in the past year was the census taken in the first eight grades of the public schools to ascertain just what books and what character of books each boy and girl preferred to read. Replies to the questionnaire were accompanied by reasons for choice in each case and this data is now being compiled for its value to the future work of the library.

Since the library is not permitted to establish deposit stations in any building not under control of the Library board, a special system for supplying books to the schools has been devised. That this scheme is effective is shown by the fact that some of the schools have drawn as many as 400 books a day."

The book collection includes 184,679 v.; population, 399,000; borrowers, 28,-

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000; circulation, 625,997; 106,322 persons used the reading and reference rooms. Receipts for the year, \$87,853; expenditures, \$79,584.

Mrs J. A. Thompson, who for 25 years has been an unfailing spirit in the library development of Oklahoma, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Chickasha. Mrs Thompson received her training for librarianship in the splendid library of Baylor university, Waco, Texas, and served for some time in the Public library of that city. In 1915, she organized the Public library of Chickasha and was for 11 years its librarian. She resigned to give her attention to the more general service of library development in Oklahoma and studied the various phases of library work in different parts of the country. For the past seven years, Mrs Thompson has been organizing libraries and serving directly with the Oklahoma library commission. She was for two years head of the State library board and is the author of much good library doctrine.

West

Irene E. Smith, N. Y. P. L., '13-15, has become assistant in the Public library at Berkeley, California.

Ena Crain, Simmons '21, has been appointed reference librarian of the Colorado Agricultural college, at Fort Collins, Colorado.

Louise E. Jones, N. Y. P. L., '14-16, who, until recently has been librarian of the Tremont branch of the New York public library, has left for Denver to become librarian of a junior high-school in that city.

Pearl Gertrude Carlson, St. Louis, '23, has received the appointment of librarian at the Eastern State normal school, Madison, South Dakota, and will give lectures to the students on children's literature.

Miss Esther Nelson, N. Y. S., for many years librarian of the University of Utah, has a year's leave of absence to study for her master's degree at the University of Michigan. Miss Ethel D. Mitchell (Simmons) will act as li-



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brarian of the university in Miss Nelson's absence.

The Park County free library, Cody, Wyoming, has had the distinction for the past few months of exhibiting a collection of statues, portraits and pictures belonging to the famous sculptor, Mrs Harry Payne Whitney of New York. Mrs Whitney was the creator of the Buffalo Bill memorial which was unveiled at Cody, the home of the famous scout, July 4, and thru her this small Western city was able to enjoy the honor of being third in the United States to exhibit Mrs Whitney's collection. Eighteen statues and portraits, with 35 pictures, comprise the collection.

The past year, according to the report of the librarian, Mrs Merlyn A. Anderson, has been one of unusual growth for the Free public library, Beatrice, Nebraska. Increased activities and usefulness have brought greater appreciation of the library and its work by the community; the purchase of a greater number of new books for both adult and juvenile departments swelled the circulation to 66,640 v., an increase of more than 11,000 over the previous year's circulation; reference work with schools, clubs, etc., has grown until provisions in this department are quite inadequate. The opening of deposit stations and library service to hospitals are new features of the year's work.

Number of books on the shelves, 15,475; borrowers, 5,335; number of newspapers and periodicals received, 92. Total receipts, \$6,000; expenditures, \$5,704.

Pacific Coast

Jessie A. Harris, Simmons '22, has resigned her position as librarian of the Public library, Whittier, California, to become librarian of the Whittier high-school.

Bertha F. Blackburn, B. L. S., Illinois '21, lately cataloger of the Lincoln library, Springfield, Illinois, has become order librarian of the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

The recent opening of the new West Berkeley branch of the Public library, Berkeley, California, marks an epoch in the history of the Public library since the new branch is the first library building to be built with the city's own funds.

The following persons have been added to the staff of the Public library, Portland, Oregon: Lucille James (Columbia); Olive Kincaid (Washington); Jessica McKenzie; Frances A. Towne (Washington); Helen Biggs (Los Angeles).

The consolidation of the city libraries of Bakersfield with the Kern County free library, California, was effected, September 4, by action of the city council and acceptance by the supervisors. The Beale memorial library will be continued for the present as a children's library as the conditions provide that it shall always be used for library purposes.

The Kern County free library now has 125,000 v. and 7,000 pamphlets; the city library, 40,000 v. and 7,000 pamphlets.

A recent report from the Public library, Pomona, California, states that the library has been experimenting with a somewhat unusual form of time schedule. Each employe works 42 hours, working an extra hour certain days of the week, so that at the end of a fortnight she has made up her full quota of hours in eleven week days. The twelfth day she is off duty. It is the opinion that this "day of rest" has undoubtedly benefited the staff.

Number of volumes in the library, 48,315; circulation, 176,400; borrowers, 9,798, 61 per cent of the population.

Mrs Theodora R. Brewitt, for some time acting librarian of the Public library, Long Beach, California, has been appointed librarian to succeed Miss Zaidee Brown, resigned (P. L. 28:408).

Mrs Brewitt is a graduate of Wisconsin library school and has held various important library positions in the West. Her appointment was enthusiastically endorsed by every organization of the city.

Miss Florence M. Freeman, head cataloger, was appointed assistant librarian.

An average of over eight books for every man, woman and child in Fullerton, California, is recorded in the annual report of the Public library of that city. Active borrowers total 5,376, 53 per cent of Fullerton's 10,000 population. Of the 82,780 v. loaned for home use, an increase of almost 13 per cent over last year's circulation, 24 per cent was non-fiction. Statistics for the past year show a constantly increasing use of the library. Although no figures are given to show the great amount of reference work done, note is made of the increasing use and appreciation of this department and the need of more help in this and the children's department if the library is to adequately serve demands made on these branches of its service. On account of crowded quarters the library finds it impossible to undertake anything new or unusual in service and is handicapped in taking care of work already started and outgrowing provisions made for it.

Receipts for the year, \$13,657; expenditures, \$10,143.

Canada

The Public library, Edmonton, Alberta, opened a new building, August 30, with appropriate ceremonies. George H. Locke, chief librarian, Public library, Toronto, made the address.

The outstanding event of the year in the Toronto public library, according to the annual report of the library, was the opening of the "Boys and Girls House." The widespread interest it has created, the extensive use made of it by parents, teachers and social workers, and the practical idea it has given of work with children, have demonstrated the value of thus carrying on library work with boys and girls in a building devoted solely to that purpose. The children themselves, each day fill its rooms to beyond capacity.

A new branch library was opened in 1922, in a remodeled church building which was admirably adapted to library purposes. The new branch has a spa-

cious circulating room, a large, attractive children's room, a high school reference room and a story-hour room.

Work in the main library building is greatly hampered in all departments from the overcrowding which is a result of the continually increasing numbers who are using the libraries all over the city and the consequent rapid enlargement of every branch of the library service. In addition, from at least two of the growing sections of the city have come demands for the erection of branch libraries in the near future and plans are now under way for putting up one of these at once. The use of books was about two millions, of which 550,000 were by boys and girls. This is Mr Locke's fifteenth year as chief librarian and he has opened a new library, on an average, each year.

Navy Library Changes

Miss Harriet Lane has been transferred from the Veterans' Bureau hospital, Ft. Lyon, Colorado, to the Naval hospital, Mare Island, California, succeeding Miss Jane Dick, former librarian, who has been transferred to the new Naval hospital, San Diego, California.

Miss Irene Dayton, librarian at Naval training station, Great Lakes, Ill., has been transferred to the new Naval training station, San Diego. Miss Delia Nicholson of Kansas City has succeeded Miss Dayton. Miss Nicholson is a graduate of New York public library school and has had experience in the Public library of Kansas City and Public library, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Miss Catherine P. Walker (Atlanta), formerly librarian of the Marine barracks, Quantico, has been appointed librarian at the Naval hospital, Great Lakes, Ill.

Miss Daisy Furchgott has resigned as librarian, Naval training station, San Francisco, taking a position in the County Medical library, Oakland. She will continue to give two half days a week to the library of the U. S. Navy receiving ship, San Francisco.

Wanted.—The Gary public library needs at once three active and alert children's librarians for specially interesting work in coöperation with the Gary school system. These librarians are to serve in branch libraries doing personal work with children coming in classes from nearby public schools. College or normal school and library training desired, library and teaching experience helpful. Salaries \$1500-\$1800 to start. Apply to Wm. J. Hamilton, librarian, Gary, Indiana.

For Sale.—A complete and authentic collection of the celebrated paper *La Libre Belgique* published in Belgium during the German occupation, 1914-1918, \$1,000.

This collection is in the keeping of M. le notaire Nève, 90 rue de Bruges, Ghent, Belgium, and may be examined there.

It constitutes a very rare document, an identical collection having recently been sold for 20,000 francs. The value of the present offered collection is greatly increased by the fact that it contains three authentic signatures, those of:

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Dr Caroline Bartlett Crane, Kalamazoo, Michigan, has a considerable number of surplus copies of reports of her sanitary surveys of Rochester, Seattle, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, Nashville, Saginaw, Erie, Uniontown, and a number of other cities, which she will be glad to donate to public libraries not already having them. Librarians making requests for any or all of these pamphlets will be supplied as far as they are still in hand at time of the separate requests. Librarian may note the amount of postage on packages as received and return same, adding 10 cents for cost of having pamphlets wrapped and mailed.